STORY TAKAHIRO
ART TETSUYA TASHIRO
Akame ga KILL!
9

TAKAHIRO
TETSUYA TSUTSUI
AKAME GA KILL!
IX

CHAPTER 39
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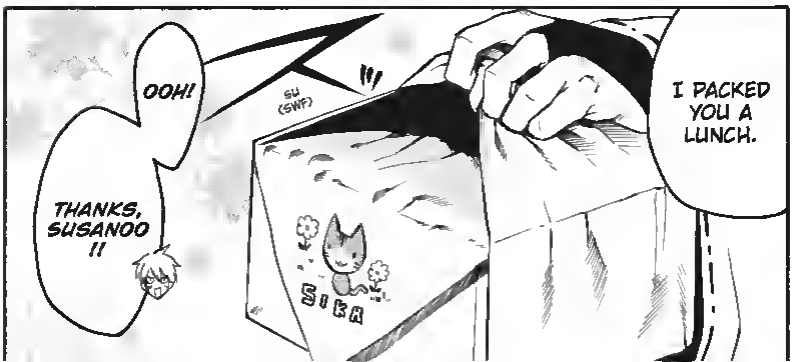
IT'S MORNING...
I'M HUNGRY.
LOOKS LIKE SHE'S HAVING A NICE DREAM.

Chapter 39 - Kill the Trauma

WORD HAS IT THEY'VE TIGHTENED THEIR SECURITY AROUND IT.
STEER CLEAR OF THE CATHE-DRAL.
WELL, WE'RE OFF.
WITHOUT A PLAN, WE CAN'T EVEN GET NEAR IT.
YEAH, YEAH.

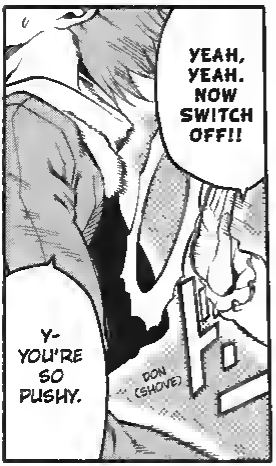

I PACKED YOU A LUNCH.
SU (SWF)
SIKA
OOH!
THANKS, SUSANOO !!

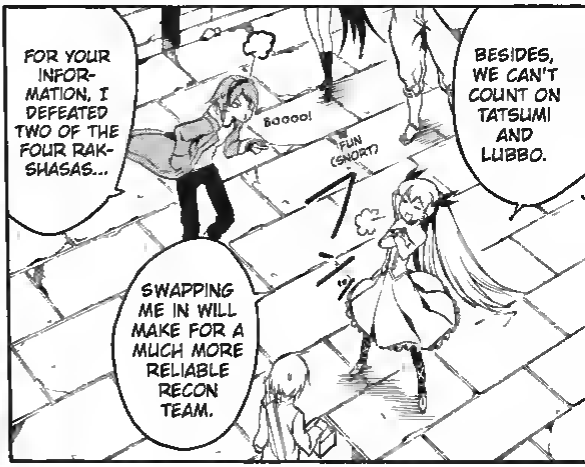
AKAME ATE HALF OF IT THOUGH.
SHUN (DROOP)
...I'M SO SORRY.
THIS IS LUBE AND TATSUMI'S LUNCH...
IT'S OKAY.
I ONLY MEANT TO HAVE A TASTE...BUT IT WAS SO GOOD...
I'M ACTUALLY GRATEFUL YOU EVEN LEFT ME HALF.
WHAT'S THIS, TATSUMI?
YOU'RE GOING OUT?
YEP.
OH.
TO CHECK OUT THE TOWN.
DO SOME SPYING, MAYBE TAKE OUT A FEW ENEMIES IF WE GET THE CHANCE
PORI (SCRATCH)
UNTIL THEY'RE DONE DIGGING OUT THAT TUNNEL, IT'S ABOUT AS MUCH AS WE CAN DO.

WHAT!?
LUBBO, I'M TAKING OVER FOR YOU.
SHI (SHOO)
SUU
TUU (SHOVE)
ALL RIGHT. THEN I'LL GO WITH TATSUMI.

I'VE BEEN FOCUSED ON GETTING BETTER, SO IT WON'T BE A PROBLEM!

I KNOW IT'S BEEN A MONTH, BUT YOUR WOUNDS HAVEN'T FULLY HEALED.
DON'T PUSH YOUR-SELF.


Y-YOU'RE SO PUSHY.
DON (SHOVE)
YEAH, YEAH. NOW SWITCH OFF!!


SWAPPING ME IN WILL MAKE FOR A MUCH MORE RELIABLE RECON TEAM.
FUN (SNORT)
Baaaa!
FOR YOUR INFOR-MATION, I DEFEATED TWO OF THE FOUR RAK-SHASAS...
BESIDES, WE CAN'T COUNT ON TATSUMI AND LUBBO.

COME ON! LET'S GO, TATSUMI! WE'RE GOING TO GATHER INTEL!
R...
RIGHT.
DA (DASH)
...MINE...
DON'T TELL ME...
SO YOU WANTED TO EAT SUSANOO'S LUNCH THAT BADLY...
GU (GENCH)
WHAT-EVER SHE'S THINKING IS PROBABLY COMPLETELY OFF THE MARK.
?
AKAME MUST BE HUNG UP ON THAT BOXED LUNCH.
I UNDER-STAND!
CORRECT

OW!

IT MAY HAVE BEEN BEST THAT YOU DIDN'T GO.
YOUR WOUNDS HAVEN'T HEALED ENTIRELY.

DAMN THAT TATSUM! ...
IS HE PLANNING TO WOO MINE NEXT?

... STILL.

JUST BE GRATEFUL THEY WEREN'T LIFE-THREATENING.
I NEVER THOUGHT MY INJURIES WOULD LAST THIS LONG.
SHEESH
AN ASSASSIN'S FIST IS WAY TOO SCARY.

.....
I DON'T THINK YOU'D DIE EVEN IF YOU WERE FATALLY WOUNDED.
IDEAL
I CAN'T STAND THAT IT'S A DUDE TENDING TO ME!
I WAS HOPING IT'D BE NAJENDA WHO'D SAY, "YOU SILLY BOY, PUSHING YOURSELF SO FAR"...
...WHILE SHE BANDAGED ME UP WITH TEARS IN HER EYES!!!
...BY THE WAY, SU-SAN!
UM... HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT NAJENDA?
THAT'S IT? FOR REAL!?
FOR REAL.
SHE'S A MASTER I CAN RESPECT.

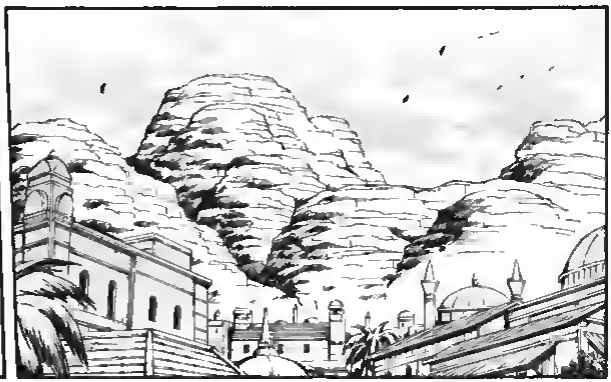
...AFTER ALL...
...I HAVE NO INTEREST IN WOMEN.

HUH!?
(BLOCK)

(SWIP)
(SU)
BUT STILL.
ISN'T IT A CONTRA-DICTION THAT YOU HAVE A HEART BUT STILL CAN'T LOVE?
S-SO THAT'S WHAT YOU MEANT!
I'M A TEIGU.
I DON'T HAVE THE CAPACITY TO LOVE.
THANK GOD...!!

TATSUMI AND I WILL FIND A GIRL FOR YOU, SU-SAN!
...I SEE.
I FIND THAT VERY INTERESTING TO HEAR.
YOU THINK MAYBE IT'S JUST THAT YOU HAVEN'T FOUND THE PERSON YOU LIKE YET?
!

BAKU CHUNCHU



ぱく
PAKU (MUNCH)
ぱく
PAKU
もぐ
MOGU (CHEW)
もぐ
MOGU
EVEN THOUGH THOSE OLD RUINS WERE DESTROYED ...
...THE TOWN'S STILL AS LIVELY AS EVER.
WITH AS MUCH ENERGY AS THEY HAVE, A WIDE-SCALE RELIGIOUS REVOLT WOULD BE ENTIRELY POSSIBLE.
PUI (SNUB)
WHAT?
じー
JIII (STARE)
.....
もぐ
MOGU
もぐ
MOGU
THE DESERT GALE
THE DESERT RUNNER
... YEAH.
I GUESS.
YOU...
...REALLY LIKE THAT DEEP-FRIED DESERT RUNNER, DON'T YOU?
THAT'S THE ONLY THING YOU'VE EATEN.

HMPH!
THAT DOES IT!
SU (SNIF)
I'LL GIVE YOU MY PORTION!
O... OKAY.
THANKS.
...WHAT'S WITH HER?
AAAH
THESE DEEP-FRIED NUGGETS REALLY ARE DELICIOUS
GOOD JOB, SU-SAN!!
JIIII (STARE)
...HEH HEH...
YOU EAT LIKE A KID.
WHAT'S HER PROB-LEM?
MOGU
もぐ
IS THIS A NEW WAY OF PICKING ON ME!?

HELLO THERE.
GU (STEP)
WE MEET AGAIN.
Y...
YOU'RE THAT PRIEST.
I'M SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOUR CHARMING PICNIC
BUT THIS MUST BE FATE.
COULD I TROUBLE YOU FOR A MOMENT OF YOUR TIME?

SO YOU'RE TRAVELERS.
...I SEE.
YES.
THAT'S RIGHT.
THE WAY OF PEACE ...
ITS SCALE AND REACH SURPRISED US.
YOU'RE THE FOUNDER, RIGHT?
EVER SINCE I WAS BORN...
..I'VE POSSESSED THE INEXPLICABLE ABILITY TO HEAL PEOPLE'S WOUNDS AND HAVE PROPHETIC DREAMS
AND WHILE HEALING ...
...AND PROPHESYING THE FUTURE...
...MORE AND MORE PEOPLE CAME TO REVERE ME AS A MIRACLE WORKER...

THE WAY OF PEACE WAS BUILT BY THEIR HANDS...
...AND IS WHAT IT IS TODAY BECAUSE OF THEM.

LIKE...
... DARK-NESS?

...S-SO ...
...ABOUT THE PEOPLE WHO ASSIST YOU.
DO YOU SENSE ANYTHING WITH THOSE POWERS OF YOURS?

HA HA HA.
EVERYBODY HAS SOME DARKNESS WITHIN.

Y-YOU IDIOT!
THAT WAS WAY TOO INTRU-SIVE!

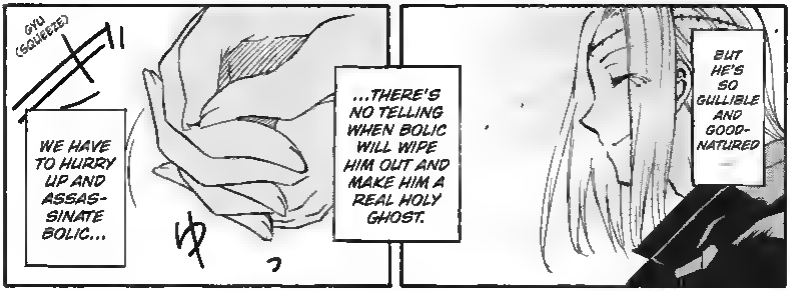
IT WAS LIMITED WHEN IT WAS ONLY ME. I COULD ONLY SAVE THOSE RIGHT BEFORE ME.
IT'S THOSE IN THE EXECUTIVE POSITIONS WHO HAVE MADE THE RELIGION THE GRAND ORGANIZATION THAT IT IS.

CERTAINLY, I SENSE DEEP DARKNESS IN A NUMBER OF THE LEADING MEMBERS.
BUT TO RUN SUCH A LARGE RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION, SOMETIMES YOU NEED TO MAKE TOUGH DECISIONS.

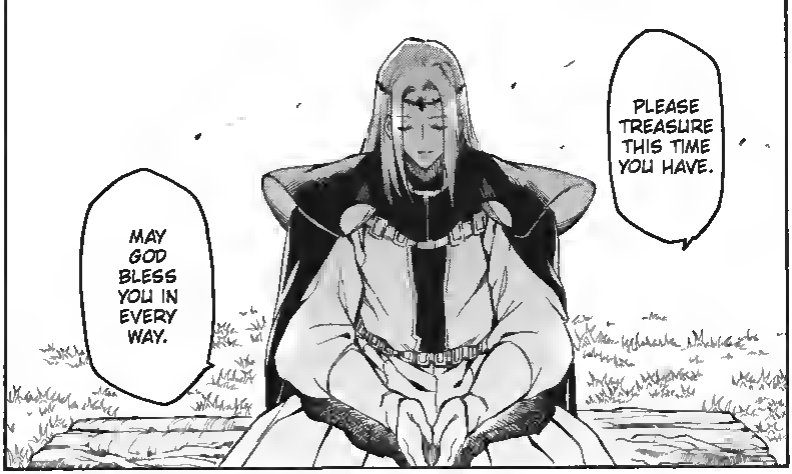
AND I'VE DECIDED ...
...TO TRUST THEM.

MR. PRIEST...
.....

...IT WOULD BE SURE TO SPARK AN UPRISING, ESPECIALLY NOW THAT WE KNOW HOW THIS PRIEST THINKS.
...AND FILL THE EXECUTIVE BOARD WITH REVOLUTION SYMPA-THIZERS.
IF WE ERAD-ICATE BOLIC ...

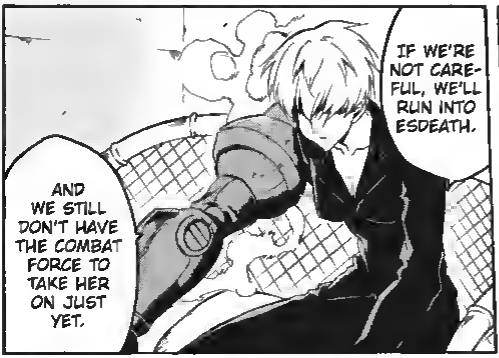

GYU (SQUEEZE)
WE HAVE TO HURRY UP AND ASSAS-SINATE BOLIC...
...THERE'S NO TELLING WHEN BOLIC WILL WIPE HIM OUT AND MAKE HIM A REAL HOLY GHOST.
BUT HE'S SO GULLIBLE AND GOOD-NATURED

!
...YOU TWO SEEM TO BE GETTING ALONG BETTER THAN BEFORE. I'M HAPPY TO SEE THAT.
BY THE WAY...


PLEASE TREASURE THIS TIME YOU HAVE.
MAY GOD BLESS YOU IN EVERY WAY.

SO THAT HAP-PENED.
WHAT A GOOD PRIEST HE IS.
YES ...

I KNOW WE'LL BE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF HIM TOO, BUT.. I CAN'T HELP BUT FEEL I'D PREFER NOT TO HAVE TO KILL HIM, IF POSSIBLE


IF WE'RE NOT CAREFUL, WE'LL RUN INTO ESDEATH.
AND WE STILL DON'T HAVE THE COMBAT FORCE TO TAKE HER ON JUST YET.

...DON'T BE HASTY.
JUUU (SSSIZZLE)

HOW MANY MEN DO YOU THINK WE'LL NEED TO DEFEAT HER?

50,000 ELITE SOLDIERS...
...AND AT LEAST TEN TEIGU USERS, INCLUDING AKAME.

THAT MANY ...!?
SHE'S NOTHING LIKE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF BUDO.
GIRI (CREAK)
IT WAS ESDEATH WHO MADE MY BODY THIS WAY.
THIS IS A GOOD TIME...
GOKU (GULP)
GI (CREAK)
GI
...FOR ME TO TELL YOU THE STORY OF HOW IT CAME TO PASS...

IT ALL HAPPENED BACK WHEN I WAS A GENERAL WITH THE EMPIRE.
NA-JENDA.
YOU'RE SO LOVELY...
QUIT YOUR POST AS A GENERAL AND BE MY WIFE
I COULD NEVER DO THAT.
WHY NOT!?
I'M ROYALTY!
YOU'D BE TAKEN CARE OF FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE!!

BECAUSE I HAVE A JOB TO DO.
SHUBA (SHWIP)
...NO-JENDA.
THAT HAPPENED TOO...
HEH!
I WAS PRETTY POPULAR BACK IN THE DAY.
THAT HAS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO DO WITH THE SUBJECT AT HAND.
YOU'RE AT THAT AGE WHERE ROMANCE IS ON THE MIND SO .I COULDN'T HELP MY-SELF.
?
BACK TO MY STORY THOUGH ...

FAR SOUTH OF THE EMPIRE...
...IS A MOUNTAIN CALLED FIRM.
MOUNT FIRM WAS ACTUALLY THE REVOLUTIONARY ARMY'S FRONTLINE BASE.
MY UNIT HAD BEEN ORDERED TO CONQUER THE BANDITS WHO HAD OVERRUN THE AREA
THE SO-CALLED "BANDITS"...
...ONLY ATTACKED LOCAL PUBLIC SERVANTS WHO FEATHERED THEIR OWN NESTS

AS I'D ALREADY PLANNED TO EVENTUALLY JOIN THE REVOLU-TIONARY ARMY...
...I SAW THIS AS MY BIG CHANCE.
SUUU (INHALE)
WHEN WE GOT INTO BATTLE FORMATION BEFORE MOUNT FIRM...
...I VOICED MY TRUE INTENTIONS TO THE ENTIRE UNIT.

THE REAL ENEMY WE SHOULD BE FACING...
...IS THAT CRAFTY MINISTER OF STATE AND HIS CRONIES! THEY'RE THE ONES WHO ARE MAKING THE PEOPLE SUFFER WITH THEIR MISGOVERNMENT!!
I'M GOING TO ALLY MYSELF WITH THE REVOLUTIONARY ARMY...
...AND CREATE A NEW COUNTRY.
A COUNTRY WHERE THE PEOPLE CAN LIVE IN PEACE AND SECURITY!
IT WILL BE A BLOODY FIGHT!
AND I'M SURE MANY OF YOU ARE WORRIED ABOUT THE FAMILIES YOU LEFT BEHIND!
I WON'T FORCE YOU TO DO ANYTHING! I WILL NOT TRACK DOWN ANY WHO CHOOSE TO LEAVE!!

BUT IF THERE ARE ANY AMONG YOU WHO WILL FOLLOW ME...
BA (WHIP)
...THEN LEND ME YOUR STRENGTH!!
WA A
AH!

I RAISED MY FLAG IN REVOLT AGAINST THE EMPIRE ALONG WITH THE MAJORITY OF MY SOLDIERS
WAAAH!
AND WE JOINED THE REVOLUTIONARY ARMY.
SINCE THE BASE WOULD [illegible] BEEN TOO CRAMPED WITH THE ADDITION OF MY SOLDIERS...
...WE LEFT THE MOUNTAIN...
...AND MARCHED TOWARD THE REVOLUTIONARY ARMY'S HQ IN ORDER TO JOIN UP WITH THEM THERE.
ON THE WAY, IT WAS JUST AS I'D [illegible]PECTED
A HUNTING PARTY FROM THE EMPIRE APPEARED BEFORE US.

BUT THAT WAS WHERE I MADE MY BIGGEST MISCALCULATION.....

ESDEATH, WHO HAD BEEN FAR AWAY AT THE TIME OF OUR DESERTION, MOBILIZED HER UNIT...
...AND CAUGHT UP TO US IN NO TIME AT ALL.
I CAN'T EVEN BEGIN TO IMAGINE..
...HOW QUICKLY YOU MUST HAVE TRAVELED TO CATCH UP TO US.
THIS IS MY TREAT TO YOU. CHARGE THEM.
I'LL HANDLE THE TEIGU USERS

I WASN'T EXPECTING TO RUN INTO ESDEATH. WE'RE COMPLETELY UNPREPARED...
THIS IS BAD...
WITH YOUR TEIGU AND MINE, NAJENDA...
...WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO HOLD OUR OWN!
SU (SWF)
IT WAS AN ERROR ON YOUR PART, BUT...
...THERE ARE FEW OF THEM.
DO (SLASH)
ゴボ
GOBO (BLORP)

BA
BA
BA
BA (WHIP)
ZU (CRSH)
"
PUMPKIN!!
BA (WHSH)
DO
DO
DO
DO
DO
DO (BLAST)

I NEED TO MOW THEM ALL DOWN...
KUH...
DO
DO (STAB)
IT'S SUCH A SHAME ...
...YOU TURNED YOUR BACK ON THE EMPIRE, NAJENDA
GAH!
TA (TMP)
DO

I WON'T GIVE YOU AN EASY DEATH.
I'M GOING TO GRIND YOU DOWN, SLOWLY AND BRUTALLY.
WHEN DID YOU ...!?
CAP-TAIN ...!
DO (CHARGE)

!?
GIGHH (K-KRIK)
...THOUGHT HIGHLY OF YOU...
GIRI
GIRI (GRIP)
I'D ALWAYS ...
GIRI
NGH ...
GIRI
GIRI (CRAK)
AH ...
...AS A COMMAND-ER...

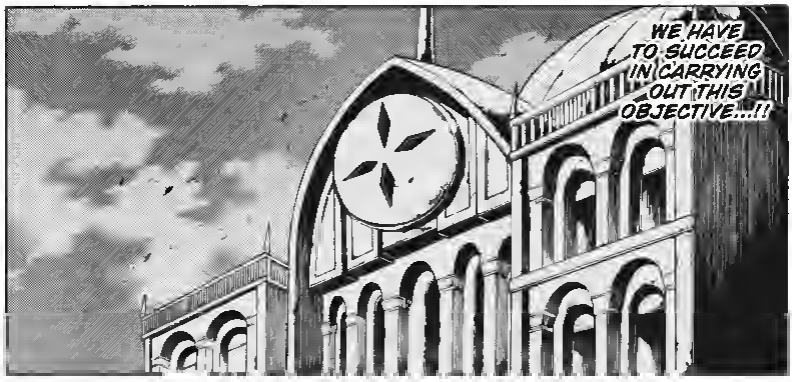
BAKI
(SHATTER)

DOSA (THUD)
HM...
DO (CLOP)
RE-INFORCE-MENTS... SO IT'S THE REBEL ARMY'S MAIN UNIT...!
I'M SURPRISED THEY CAME OUT THIS FAR TO GREET US.

Pllll! (TWEEEEEET)
TWO BACK-TO-BACK BATTLES WOULD BE HARD ON THEM..
MY UNIT'S ALREADY EXHAUSTED FROM OUR FORCED MARCH.
BA (CHOP)
DO (CLOP)
DO
DO
I'LL SAVE MY NEXT FEAST FOR LA
GU (GRAB)
WE'RE RE-TREATING.
AND THAT'S HOW MY UNIT TOOK HEAVY DAMAGE...

...AND I WAS LEFT INJURED, TEETERING BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH.
HAAH
HAAH
HAAH
I WAS SHOWN ALL TOO CLEARLY THE DIFFERENCE IN OUR ABILITIES...
IT'S EVEN POSSIBLE THAT SHE DIDN'T FINISH ME OFF THEN SO THAT SHE COULD ENJOY HERSELF IN LATER BATTLES AGAINST ME...
... BOSS .....
BUT EITHER WAY, I SURVIVED...
...AND AM HERE TODAY.

THAT'S MY BOSS...
SHE'S SO COOL...!
AND TO DO THAT, FIRST WE NEED TO ASSAS-SINATE BOLIC...!!
...AND LIFT THE CURSE OF THIS TRAUMA SHE PUT ON ME.
IN THE END, I'LL WIN...


WE HAVE TO SUCCEED IN CARRYING OUT THIS OBJECTIVE...!!

ぐっぱっ
GUPPA (CLENCH)
GUPPA
WITHIN THE CATHE-DRAL
WHAT DO I DO...? MY INJURIES STILL HAVEN'T HEALED.
PON (PAT)
IT'LL BE OKAY.
I'M GOING TO WORK EXTRA HARD TO MAKE UP FOR LAST TIME.
WAVE...

NIGHT RAID...
THERE'S NO WAY I'M ONLY GOING TO PLAY THE BORING ROLE OF BODY-GUARD.
I'VE DEVISED A TRUMP CARD FOR MY TEIGU.
SO HURRY UP AND GET HERE...!

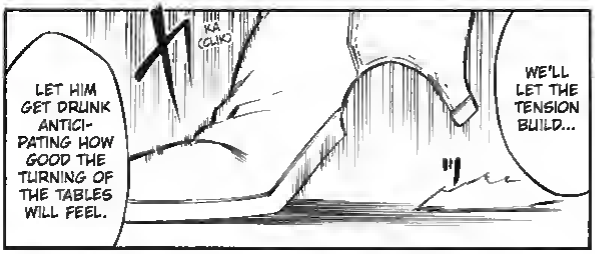
DO (THUD)?
YOU'LL BE IN FOR A TREAT...!!
WE'VE BROKEN THROUGH.
...ALL RIGHT.
NOW WE CAN FINALLY LAUNCH OUR INVASION.

GENERAL.
PACHI (CLACK)
YOU NEED ONLY SERVE AS MY BODY-GUARD FOR TWO MORE WEEKS.
TWO WEEKS ...?
OH, THAT'S RIGHT. IT'LL BE THE RELIGION'S FOUNDING DAY...THERE'S GOING TO BE A GRAND FESTIVAL.
YES.
PACHI (CLACK)
THE GROUND-WORK'S FINALLY BEEN LAID OUT.
I'M GOING TO HAVE THE FOUNDING PRIEST KILLED...
PACHI
...TO MAKE HIM A TRUE HOLY GHOST.

AND THEN, IN FRONT OF ALL THE BELIEVERS WHO WILL BE GATHERED THERE...
NII (GRIND)
...I'M GOING TO NAME MYSELF ...
PACHI (CLACK)
...THE NEW HEAD PRIEST.

Chapter 40 - Kill the Ambitions

HA HA HA!
PEKO (BOW)
YOU'VE BEATEN ME.
YOU'VE GOT NATURAL TALENT, BUT YOU STILL LACK EXPERIENCE.


KA (CLIK)
WE'LL LET THE TENSION BUILD...
LET HIM GET DRUNK ANTICI-PATING HOW GOOD THE TURNING OF THE TABLES WILL FEEL.

KA (CLIK)
KA
KA

GOOD WORK KEEPING HIM ENTER-TAINED WITH THAT CHESS MATCH.
NO PROBLEM AT ALL. I'M HAPPY TO DO IT ANY TIME.

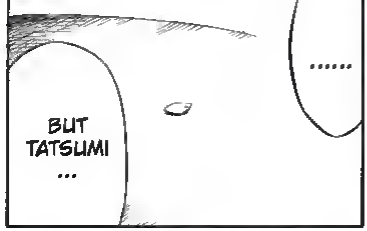
NAJENDA MUST REALIZE SHE'S RUNNING OUT OF TIME.
SHE'LL BE COMING HERE SOON.
WE'LL SHORE UP OUR SECURITY.
KA (CLIK)
KA
KA
KA
KA
GYU (TUG)
TODAY I MEAN BUSINESS LIKE I'VE NEVER MEANT IT BEFORE.

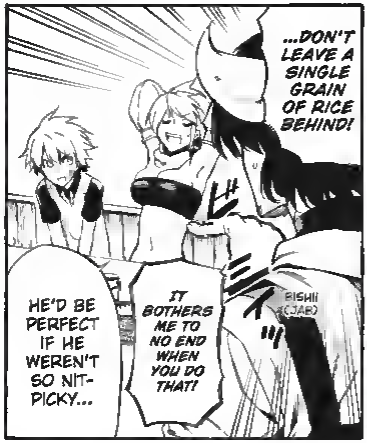
OOOOH!
I HOPE YOU'RE READY...
...EVERY-ONE!
FOR MINE, IT'S A STRAW-BERRY PARFAIT.
AND THERE'S A SPECIAL SURPRISE FLAVOR INSIDE TOO!
BERRY-GOOD!
OOH!
FOR NAJENDA, IT'S SALT-FLAVORED RAMEN WITH FIRM NOODLES.
I HAVE TOTAL CONFIDENCE IN HOW I'VE SEASONED MY CHICKEN AND THE AMOUNT OF SALT!
NOODLE-LICIOUS!

FOR LEONE IT'S ODEN AND EXPENSIVE LOCAL SAKE SERVED COLD!
EEEEEK!
SAKE-MAZING!
LUBBOCK GETS A FRESH BOKKA! SHRIMP CREATION!
WAH!
SEAFOOD-SPLOSION!
FOR AKAME, AN ASSORTMENT OF MEAT...
MEATY!
...STEWED IN MY OWN SECRET SAUCE!
THIS IS A KID'S LUNCH...
PFFT!
...A SPECIALLY-MADE SUSANOO LUNCH SET.
DON GRAGUNG
AND SINCE TATSUMI SAID HE'D BE HAPPY WITH ANYTHING...

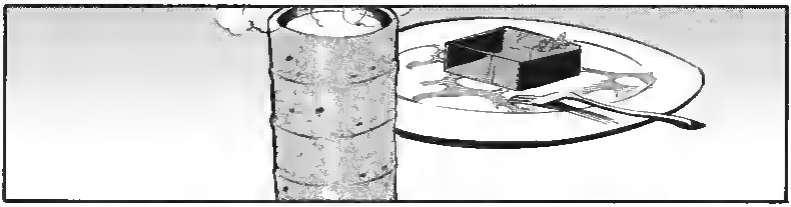
SUSANOO'S MADE EACH OF US OUR FAVORITE DISH.
SO LET'S EAT TO OUR HEARTS' CONTENT, BE IN GOOD SPIRITS, AND.....
GOOOOOO (RUMBLE)
OH, YOU'RE ALREADY EATING.
WELL, SO LONG AS YOU'RE FEELING GOOD.
GA (GRAB)
COME ON, TATSUMI! TRY SOME—
TATSU-MI!!!
MMM! SO SWEET!
THIS IS DELI-CIOUS!
PUHAAAAH.
MY CUP'S EMPTY.
YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO DO?

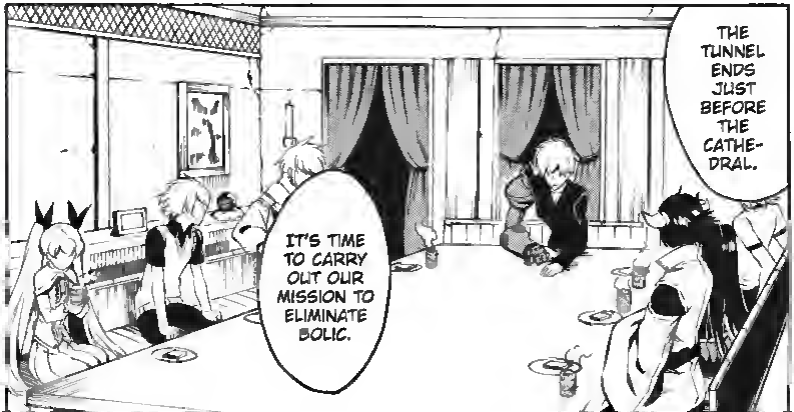
GOOD BOY, TATSUMI.
THAT'S THE STUFF.
YEAH, YEAH. I'LL POUR YOU A NEW ONE.
TOKU
TOKU (GLUG)
MUUU (POUT)
.....
PUI (SNUB)
..... HMPH.
YOUR COOKING'S OUT OF THIS WORLD AGAIN, SU-SAN!!
YOU ALREADY ATE IT ALL!
OH!
DON (BOOM)
YEAH.
WE COULD NEVER SURVIVE WITHOUT YOU, SU-SAN.


.....
BUT TATSUMI ...


...DON'T LEAVE A SINGLE GRAIN OF RICE BEHIND!
HE'D BE PERFECT IF HE WEREN'T SO NIT-PICKY...
IT BOTHERS ME TO NO END WHEN YOU DO THAT!
EISHI (CJAE)

I'M HAPPY TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT.
HEH.




IT'S TIME TO CARRY OUT OUR MISSION TO ELIMINATE BOLIC.
THE TUNNEL ENDS JUST BEFORE THE CATHE-DRAL.

INTEL SAYS THE CATHEDRAL'S GOT PLENTY OF COVERED AREAS TOO.
PIRA (FWAP)
IT'S THE PERFECT SETUP FOR US TO HIDE OURSELVES IN.
SO IT WON'T BE IN HIS MANSION? WE'LL DO IT IN THE CATHEDRAL?
ZU (SIP)
ZU
WORD HAS IT BOLIC'S PRIVATE MANSION'S BEEN FITTED WITH TRAPS OVER THE PAST COUPLE OF MONTHS.
BETTER THE CATHEDRAL, THEN, RIGHT?
ACCORDING TO OUR COLLABORATORS ON THE INSIDE, OUR TARGET HOLDS A NIGHT-LONG PRAYER IN THE CATHEDRAL ONCE A MONTH...
THAT'S THE DAY AFTER TOMOR-ROW.
OUR SPIES BACK THAT UP TOO.
WHICH MEANS THAT'S THE NIGHT WE STRIKE.

TCH!
HE'S ACTUALLY JUST FLIRTING WITH THE GIRLS, DON'T YOU THINK?
IT'S JUST TO MAKE HIMSELF LOOK GOOD.
IS HE REALLY HOLDING MASS?
IF NOTHING ELSE, THEY MUST HAVE AT LEAST CONSIDERED IT AS A POSSIBILITY.
FOR REAL!?
HUH?
DON'T YOU THINK IT LIKELY THEY'RE ALREADY EXPECTING AN INVASION FROM UNDER-GROUND?
BUT, BOSS
THAT'S WHAT SUSANOO, LEONE, TATSUMI, AND I WILL BE DOING.
THEY'LL INVADE AND STIR UP A BIG COMMOTION TO KEEP THE ENEMY'S EYE ON THEM.
ONE TEAM WILL CREATE A DIVERSION FROM BELOW GROUND.
OF COURSE
THAT'S WHY WE'RE GOING TO SPLIT UP INTO TWO TEAMS.

THE JAEGERS WILL PROBABLY INTERCEPT US, BUT DON'T ENGAGE THEM.
WE'LL GIVE THEM A GOOD RUN-AROUND AND FOCUS ON STAYING ALIVE.
OUR TEAM WILL BE READY TO TAKE A HIT, WITH OUR REGENER-ATIVE AND DEFENSIVE ABILITIES.
SHORTLY FOLLOWING, THE REMAINING MEMBERS WILL USE AN AIR MANTA TO MAKE A STRIKE ON THE CATHEDRAL FROM THE AIR.
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE CHAOS TO GET TO BOLIC!
I'M HAVING ONE SENT HERE FROM HQ.
I DON'T GET TO RIDE IT...
IT SHOULD ARRIVE BY TONIGHT.
AN AIR MAN-TA!
YOU MEAN THAT THING WE RODE WHEN WE WENT TO THE UNKNOWN REGION!

AKA-ME.
MINE.
LUB-BOCK.
I'M COUNT-ING ON YOU!!

GYU (CLENCH)
ROGER THAT!!
YEAH.
OUR ONLY TARGET THIS TIME IS BOLIC.
KEEP YOUR FOCUS ON THAT.

TARGET
IF WE DON'T TAKE OUT OUR TARGET ...
...WE'LL BE FORCED TO BATTLE ESDEATH.

WE ALL UNDERSTOOD.

OUR INVASION WAS AN EMERGENCY MEASURE WE HAD TO TAKE OR THE HEAD PRIEST WOULD BE KILLED.

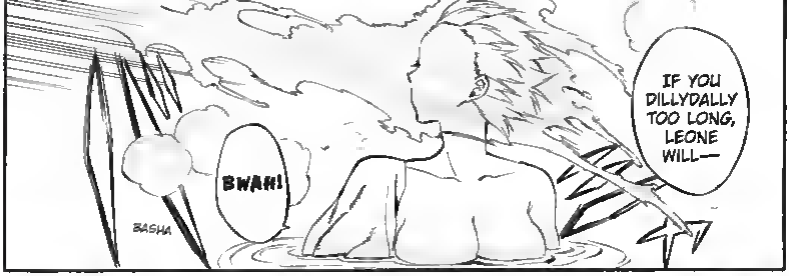
EVEN IF THE ENEMY WAS MORE GUARDED THAN EVER, WE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO ACT.

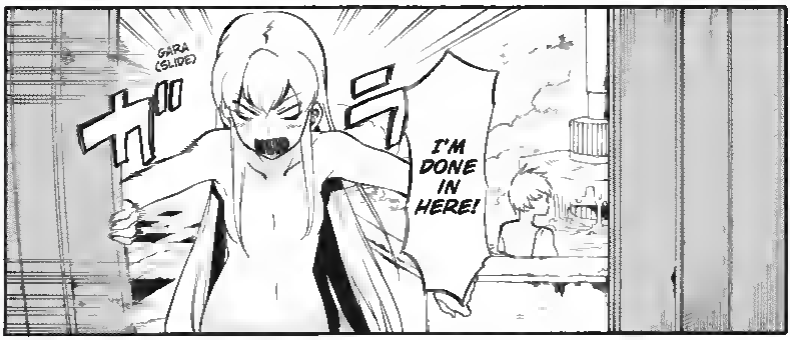
WE KEPT FOCUSED ON SUCCESS IN THIS OPERATION, KNOWING THAT IT WOULD BE A PIVOTAL TURNING POINT IN THE REVOLUTION.

WE EACH PREPARED OURSELVES.

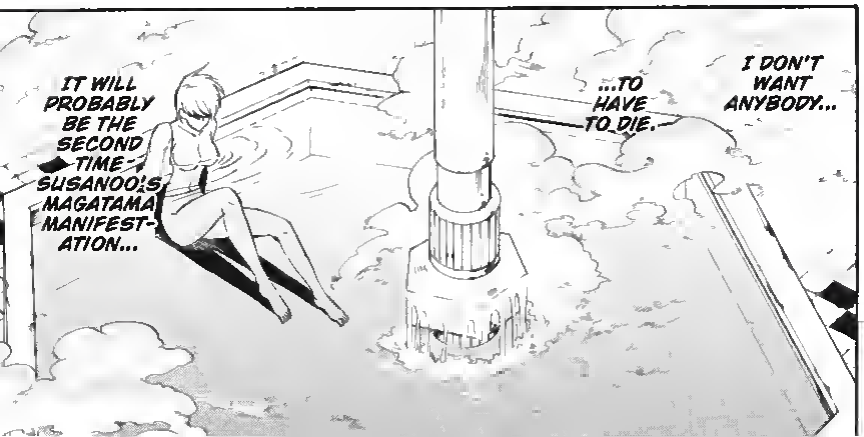
PHEW.
カポーン
KAPOOON (SPLOOSH)
IT'S A GOOD THING THE HIDEOUT HAS A BATH.
IT'S PERFECT FOR RESTING OUR BODIES IN PREPARA-TION FOR THE BATTLE.
?
WE'LL BE INVADING THE CATHEDRAL, BUT...
SO, MINE.
BUT WHAT?

IT'S A MISSION WE CAN'T PREDICT THE OUTCOME OF.
DON'T YOU THINK YOU SHOULD MAKE SURE YOU GO INTO IT WITHOUT ANY REGRETS?
BO (BLUSH)
WH...
KAAAAA (BLUUUUUSH)
YOU SAT BESIDE TATSUMI AGAIN TODAY.
OF COURSE, IT'S ENTIRELY UP TO YOU WHETHER OR NOT YOU DECIDE TO ACT.
WHEN YOU'VE LIVED AS LONG AS I HAVE, YOU GET A SENSE OF YOUR SUBORDINATES' FEELINGS.
BASHA (SPLASH)
WH-WH-WH-WH-WH-WH-WH...
WHAT ARE YOU IMPLY-ING!?

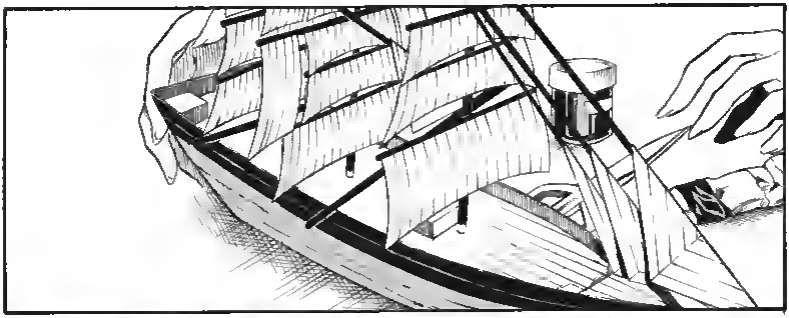

IF YOU DILLYDALLY TOO LONG, LEONE WILL—
BWAH!
BASHA


GARA (SLIDE)
I'M DONE IN HERE!

HEH...
POTA
POTA (DRIP)
SHE'S SO YOUNG.

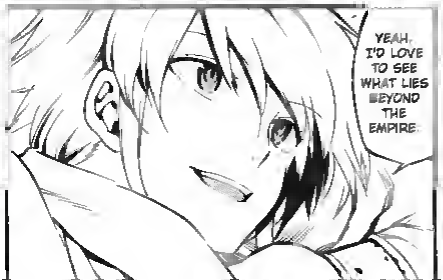

I DON'T WANT ANYBODY...
...TO HAVE TO DIE.
IT WILL PROBABLY BE THE SECOND TIME-, SUSANOO!S MAGATAMA MANIFEST-ATION...

KYU (HUG)
...WILL BE REQUIRED...



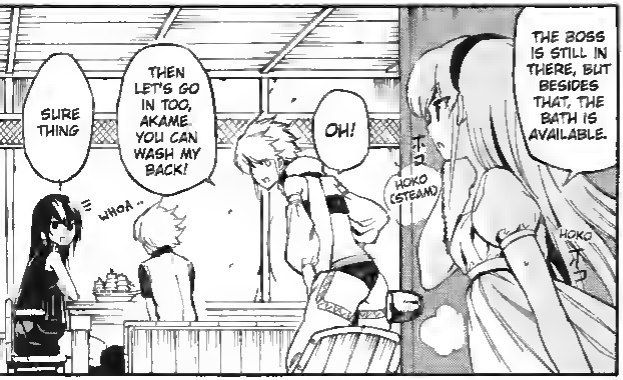
YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THAT?
MY FRIEND TAUGHT ME.
I GUESS IT'S 'COS SHE ALWAYS MAKES THEM IN HER ROOM.

AKA-ME...
YOU'RE REALLY GOOD AT MAKING THOSE.


YEAH, I'D LOVE TO SEE WHAT LIES BEYOND THE EMPIRE.

I THINK IT'D BE FUN TO GET TO TRAVEL ON A SHIP LIKE THAT.

YEAH.
WHEN OURS IS A PEACEFUL COUNTRY, LET'S ALL GO ON A TRIP.

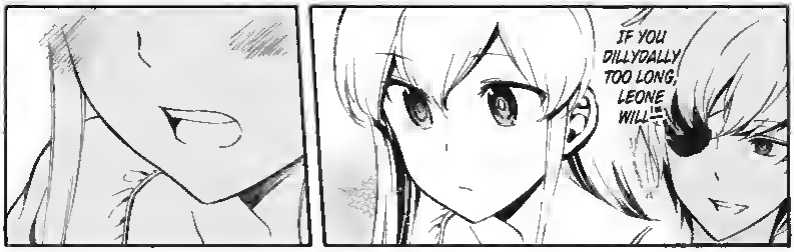

SURE THING
THEN LET'S GO IN TOO, AKAME. YOU CAN WASH MY BACK!
OH!
THE BOSS IS STILL IN THERE, BUT BESIDES THAT, THE BATH IS AVAILABLE.
WHOA..
HOKO (STEAM)
HOKO

GACHA (KLATCH)

YOU'RE SO FUN TO TEASE.
HA-HA-HA. JUST KIDDING.

YOU JOINING US, TATSUMI?
GUNPS (GUNPS)
WHAT!?

SHUT UP...
YOU MAY SAY SO, BUT YOU LOOK AWFULLY HAPPY ABOUT IT.
SH...
OH.
DOSA (THUMP)
SHEESH, SHE'S ALWAYS ON MY CASE.


IF YOU DILLYDALLY TOO LONG, LEONE WILL BE...

WHAT IS IT?
ZUI CLEAN
SAY...
...TATSUMI?

WHEN THIS MISSION'S OVER, I HAVE SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT.
WILL YOU HEAR WHAT I HAVE TO SAY?

DOKI
DOKI
DOKI
DOKI (RAPUNZ)
NOW I'M CURI-OUS.
YOU CAN'T JUST TELL ME NOW?
KURU (TURN)
NO.
THIS IS WHAT'S BEST.
THE BOSS AND I THINK DIFFER-ENTLY.

...AS STRONG AS POSSIBLE.
YOU HAVE TO MAKE YOUR WILL TO SURVIVE...
I REALLY AM SO SIMPLE...
I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW MUCH I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT HIM, EVER SINCE HE SAVED ME...
PORI (SCRATCH)
PORI
I'M SO JEALOUS!
AND DID SHE JUST STEAL MY CATCH PHRASE?
I WON'T STAND FOR THAT LOVEY-DOVEY VIBE IN THERE!
BATA (STRUGGLE)
JITA (FLAIL)
LET GO OF ME, SU-SAN!
MMMPH!

ALL THAT'S LEFT...
THESE ARE PERFECT PRE-MISSION CONDI-TIONS.
EVERY-ONE'S ABLE TO REALLY RELAX.
...IS GIVING IT OUR ALL!

ONE A.M.
GO (WHUD)
GWAH!
!?
DO (THUD)
GUH!
"A"
(BATA (FLOP)...

PACH!
(FLICKER)
チッ
YOU'LL ACTIVATE INCURSIO'S INVISIBILITY TO TAKE OUT THEIR GUARDS.
じっ
(JAB)
FIRST THE DIVERSION TEAM WILL INVADE FROM UNDERGROUND.
IF WE'RE FOUND WHILE STILL OUTSIDE, A HUGE NUMBER OF GUARD SOLDIERS AND RELIGIOUS FOLLOWERS WILL TRY STOP US.
WE'LL MAKE FOR THE CATHEDRAL'S INNER COURTYARD WITHOUT BEING DETECTED.

...BOLIC AND ESDEATH WILL BE IN THE BUILDING THAT STANDS BEFORE US.
ONCE WE'VE MADE IT INSIDE...
WE'LL CAUSE A COM-MOTION...
...AND LURE ESDEATH OUT TO THE COURTYARD!

A NUMBER OF INTRUDERS HAVE MADE IT TO THE CENTRAL COURTYARD ...!
HA (HUSH)
W-WE HAVE A SITUA-TION!
KUROME, YOU KEEP AN EYE ON BOLIC AND DON'T LEAVE HIS SIDE!
ROGER!
TH-THE COURT-YARD!?
THAT'S NOT FAR FROM HERE!!
I KNEW NIGHT RAID WOULD CHOOSE TONIGHT.
JUST AS I PREDICTED.
MESHI (MASH)
AGH!?
YOU ALWAYS GIVE THE APPEARANCE OF BEING IN CONTROL. TRY ACTUALLY ACTING LIKE IT.
YOU'RE PA-THETIC.
DON'T WORRY. I WON'T LEAVE THE CATHEDRAL.
ZURI (DRAG)
ZURI
G-GENERAL!
I WANT YOU TO PROTECT ME YOUR-SELF!

NO MATTER HOW MUCH CHAOS THEY CAUSE...
...UNLESS YOU TAKE OUT BOLIC, YOU LOSE.
NOW...

GOOOOOO (WHOOOSH)
...HURRY AND COME TO ME!
ALL RIGHT!
WE'LL CHARGE RIGHT THROUGH THE CATHEDRAL ROOF!
MINE, JUST BEFORE WE GET IN, OPEN A HUGE HOLE FOR US WITH PUMPKIN!
GOT IT. I'M ALL READY TO GO!

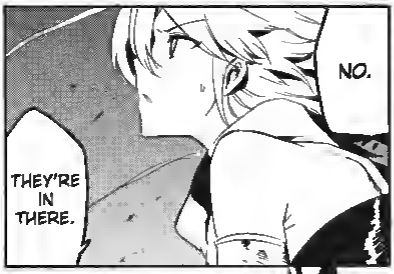
PUMPKIN'S A TOUGH TEIGU. IT WAS FINE EVEN AFTER GETTING CAUGHT IN AN EXPLOSION.
THAT'S TRUE, BUT...
...WHEN I HEAR STORIES OF WHEN THE BOSS USED IT, I WONDER HOW IT MANAGED NOT TO GET DAMAGED.
AND IT NEVER RECOILS?
NEVER.
YOU SCAREDY-CAT. JUST LEAVE IT TO ME.
AFTER ALL...
...I'M A GENIUS SHOT.

DOKYU
CZOOMU
WHAT!?
I KNEW THEY'D HAVE A SEPARATE AERIAL UNIT.
LOOKS LIKE WE MANAGED TO PREDICT THE SITUATION PERFECTLY THIS TIME.
BUT I'M SURPRISED THAT YOU'D LAUNCH AN ATTACK FROM THE AIR...
...WHEN YOU KNOW FULL WELL THAT IT'S MY TERRI-TORY.

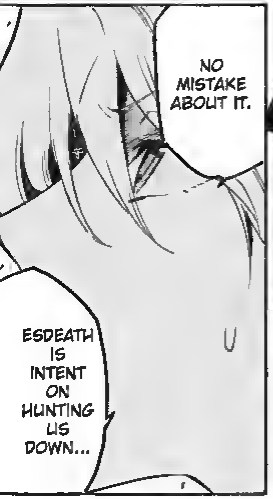
"POOR WORK" ...
...IS THE ONLY THING I CAN CALL IT.
UWAAAAAAH!
UH...

NIGHT RAID.
GYU (GRIP)
THERE YOU ARE.
AS PAY-BACK ...
...FOR BOLS, SERYU, AND KORO...
AND FOR HURTING KUROME ...
...I'M GOING TO SETTLE THE SCORE ...
...ONCE AND FOR ALL!!

HYUOOO (WOOO)


NO.
THEY'RE IN THERE.

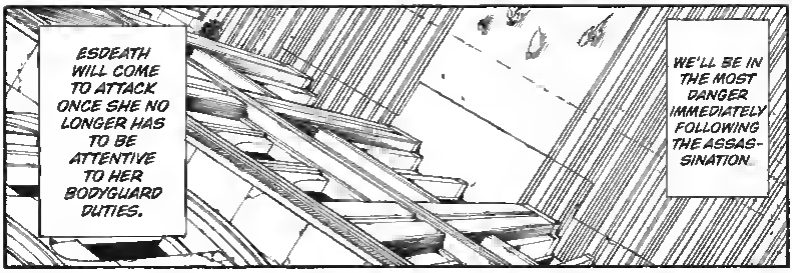
WE CAUSED ALL THIS RACKET, AND THEY STILL HAVEN'T COME OUT...
COULD THEY HAVE FLED?


NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT.
ESDEATH IS INTENT ON HUNTING US DOWN...

I CAN FEEL THIS CREEPY VIBE COMING OFF THE CATHEDRAL ...
ZUOOOO (GLAMMM)

WE NEEDED ESDEATH AND THE REST TO BE FOCUSED ON US IN ORDER FOR THE ASSASSINATION TO SUCCEED...
WE HAVE NO CHOICE!
CHANGE OF PLANS!!
AKAME AND THE OTHERS SHOULD BE INVADING FROM THE SKY ANY MINUTE NOW.
GASHU (SHHH)
GOT IT!
WE'LL ENTER THE CHURCH OUR-SELVES!
YES.
SUSA-NOO.
I'VE SET IT TO ACTIVATE AS SOON AS YOU SAY THE KEYWORD.
IS YOUR TRUMP CARD READY?

DA CRASH!!


ESDEATH WILL COME TO ATTACK ONCE SHE NO LONGER HAS TO BE ATTENTIVE TO HER BODYGUARD DUTIES.
WE'LL BE IN THE MOST DANGER IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE ASSASSINATION.

THEN THE BEST TIME TO ACTIVATE THE MAGATAMA MANIFESTATION, GIVEN ITS TIME LIMIT, IS...
...THE MOMENT BOLIC IS KILLED!
I'LL USE IT SO THAT WE CAN ALL GET OUT OF HERE ALIVE!

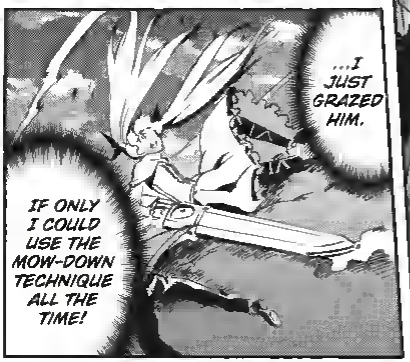
Chapter 41 - KILL THE WICKED

THE AIR MANTA'S DEAD AS A DOORNAIL!
WE'RE GONNA CRASH!
DOGYU (ZOOM)
GYUOOO (ZOOOOOM)
I WON'T LET THIS CHANCE GO TO WASTE.

(BLAST)
I WON'T LET THIS WRECK GO TO WASTE.
(WHIP)

JUUUU
(SIZZLE)
!!
KUH!
POO
(BLAST)
...!!!

JUUUU
(FZSHH)


...I JUST GRAZED HIM.
IF ONLY I COULD USE THE MOW-DOWN TECHNIQUE ALL THE TIME!

THAT TEIGU...IS FAR MORE TROUBLE THAN I'D THOUGHT...

DOSYU (BLAST)
!?

PA (SLASH)
PA
PA
PA
HMPH.
YOU CHASED HIM OFF.
GOOD MARKS-MANSHIP, MINE.
YOU'RE THE ONE WITH THE NICE FOLLOW-UP!
BARA (FWIP)
PA (WH...)
WE'RE ALL GONNA CRASH AND DIE!
GOOOO (WHOOSH)
THIS IS NO TIME FOR COMPLI-MENTS!

KYU (TUG)
IT'S AN IMPROMPTU CUSHION.
SHUUUUUU (SSSHHH)
BARA (FWIP)
DOOOON (BOOOOM)

I KNEW IT...
THE AIR MANTA TOOK ALL THE IMPACT WITH ITS BODY.
THANK YOU FOR EVERY-THING.
YOU HELPED US UP TO THE VERY END.

WE LANDED RIGHT OUT FRONT.
LET'S HURRY INTO THE CATHE-DRAL.
YOU'RE NOT GOING ANY-WHERE.

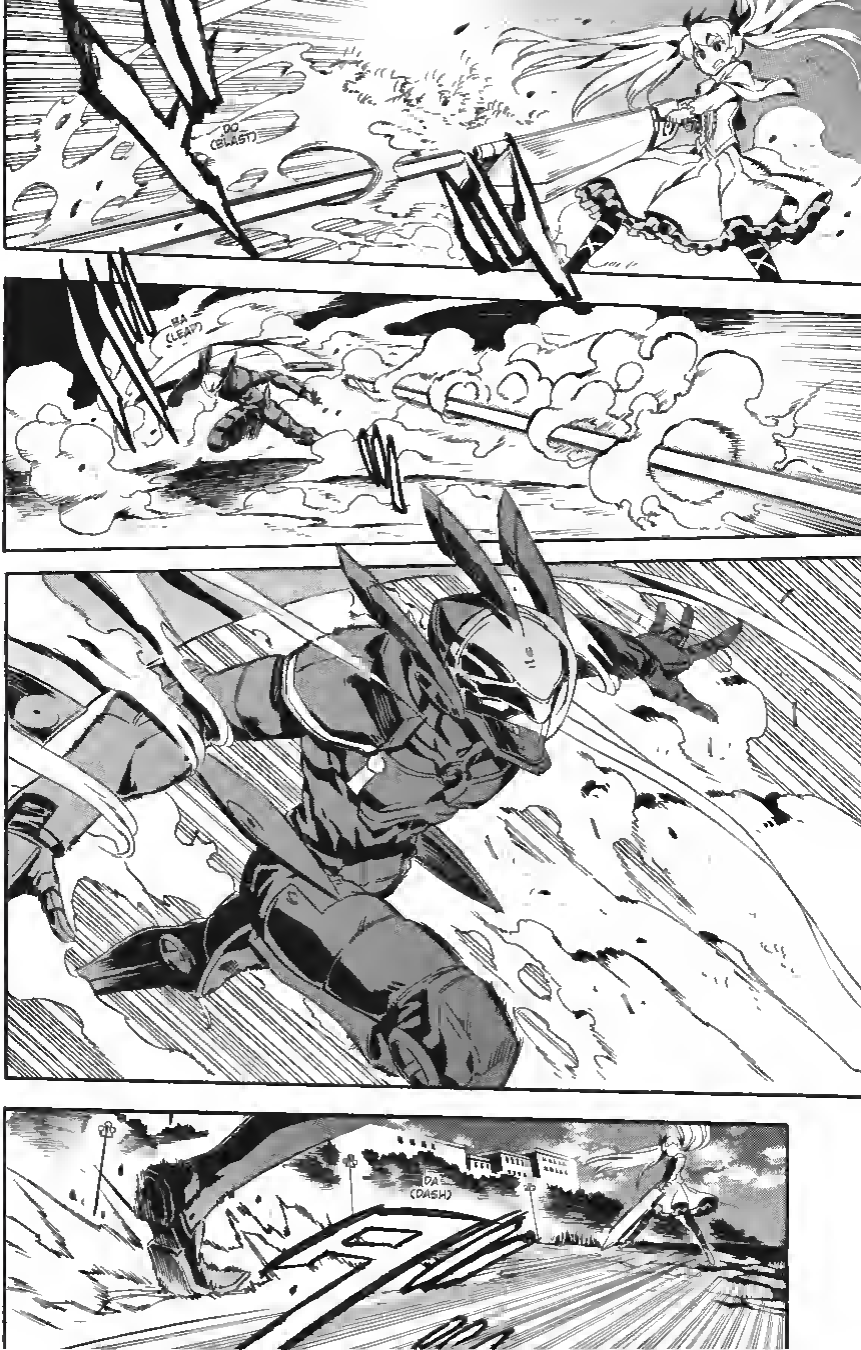
ZA (SCUFF)

THE ONE YOU'LL BE TAKING ON...
...IS ME.

EVEN IF HE'S NOT OUR TARGET, WE'LL TAKE HIM ON THREE TO ONE! WITHOUT MERCY!
ARE WE DOING THIS?
A JAEGER!
CHA (CHK)
...!
COME AT ME.
YOU DIRTY ASSASSINS...
YOU EVEN DAMAGED RUN...
ZU (ZSW)
ZU
ZU
ZU (SEETHE)
I WON'T LET ANYONE ELSE GET HURT...!!
I WON'T LOSE ANY MORE COMRADES ...!

GRAND
CHARIOOO
OOOOTTT

KYUDOOO
OOOOOOOOW


DO (BLAST)
HA (LEAP)
DA (CRASH)

SHKK (CLANG)
GAKI (CLANG)
KI
KI
KI
MY BLADE CAN'T CUT THROUGH TO HIS FLESH...
HIS ARMOR'S SO TOUGH...

...NO CHINKS IN HIS ARMOR...!
HE HAS...!!
I DON'T CARE HOW MANY OF YOU THERE ARE!!
DO (GLIDE)
DO
DO
DO

BAKI (CRACK)
BAKI
BAKI
GAH!
DO
ALL RIGHT.
I'VE GOT YOU—
MISHI (CREAK)
GIGHI (CRUNCH)
!

!!
BECHI (SNAP)
DA (DASH)
COME AT ME!
FALL RIGHT INTO MY THREAD TRAP!

I'LL DESTROY YOU UNTIL THERE'S NOTHING LEFT!
HE FIG-URED IT OUT!!
BA (HOP)
BA
BA
BA
BA (WHI)
BUCHI (SN)
BUCHI
BUCHI

BAK!! (THWACK)
YOU!!
DO (BLAST)
!!
BA (HOP)

WHAT... IS WITH THIS GUY?
DA (TMP)
WAS HE ALWAYS THIS STRONG!?
ZU (TSH)
ZU
ZU
THAT'S SOME IMPRESSIVE SPIRIT...
IF WE DON'T TAKE HIM OUT SOON...
...THE ENTIRE DIVERSION TEAM WILL BE WIPED OUT...
ZU (TSH)

ESDEATH
...
LONG TIME NO SEE.
NA-JENDA.

SO VOLUPTUOUS...
BAIN (BOING)
OH.
SO, THAT'S NIGHT RAID...
AND THEN WE HAVE SO MUCH CATCHING UP TO DO.
IN THE TORTURE CHAMBER.
ZURUU (SLIP)
SINCE YOU WENT THROUGH ALL THE TROUBLE TO GET HERE...
...I'LL TREAT YOU TO MY TEIGU!
SO COLD.
NO THANKS
I EVEN PREPARED A TRUMP CARD.
I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY TO YOU.

PRETTY NEAT, HUH?
THAT'S RIGHT.
SO I INVENTED ONE MYSELF.
I'D HEARD THAT YOUR TEIGU, DEMON'S EXTRACT, DIDN'T HAVE A TRUMP CARD WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
...?
BREAKING LIMITS IS SO TYPICAL OF ES-DEATH.
A TRUMP CARD ISN'T USUALLY SOMETHING YOU CAN COME UP WITH YOURSELF.
SHE JUST WANTED TO BRAG.
...AKAME AND THE OTHERS STILL AREN'T HERE...
THEN TATSUMI AND I WILL HAVE TO GO AHEAD...
...AND KEEP ESDEATH'S ATTENTION ON US.
I CAN ONLY USE IT ONCE.
EITHER WAY, IT'S A TECHNIQUE THAT CONSUMES A LARGE AMOUNT OF ENERGY.
AND I'M EXPECTING A BATTLE THAT WILL FORCE ME TO USE IT.

KURO-ME.
CONCEN-TRATE ON GUARDING BOLIC.
THERE'S NO TELLING WHERE THE OTHERS WILL POP OUT FROM.
UNDER-STOOD.

...I'M SURE SHE'LL COME HERE.
KNOW-ING MY SISTER...

PACHIN (SNAP)
MY JOB IS TO GET TO BOLIC ONCE THE FIGHTING STARTS.
THAT'S ALL I HAVE TO FOCUS ON!
HERE I COME ...

CAN'T RUSH IT.
INVISIBLE

...
NIGHT
RAID!!
PAKU
CKRAKU

GET BEHIND ME!!
ZA (ZSH)
DOKI (GHASH)

DO (BLAST)
HOW ABOUT THIS?
DO
DO
DO
JA (CHNKT)
GYUUAA (ZWAAAANG)
DO (SHOONK)

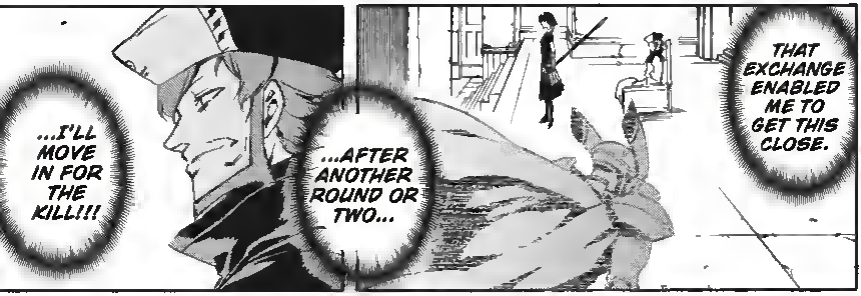
HUH!?
SHUUUU (FSHHHH)
OOH!!
YOU DID IT!
YOU'RE THE LIVING TEIGU FROM THE REPORTS, AREN'T YOU?
YOU...
DO (RUST)
DO
DO
DO
THAT MAKES THINGS SUDDENLY INTERESTING!
LET US MAKE A CHARGE AT HER TOO!
YEAH!!

DA
(TMP)
DA
DA
DA
DA
I'LL SKEWER YOU!
BA
(SLAM)
DO
(SHOOM)

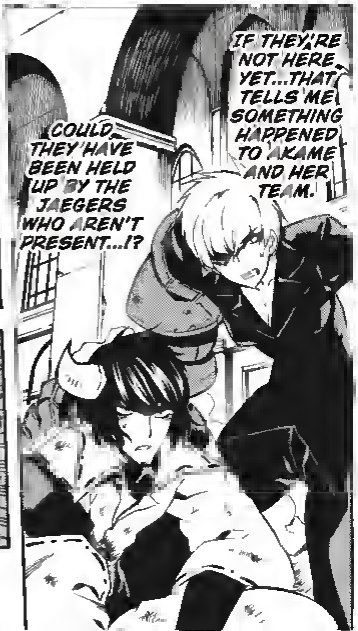
SHUPO (SHWIP)
!
SHE REACTS SO QUICK...
FASTER THAN ANY BEAST ...!!
DO (STAB)

DOU (BLAST)
KYU (SQUEAK)
KYU
SU (SWF)
SHUUUU (FSSHHH)
FOR A HUMAN, THE GIRL HAS INCREDIBLE HEALING POWERS.
MUST BE THE POWER OF HER TEIGU.
WELL, WELL.

TA (THUD)


...I'LL MOVE IN FOR THE KILL!!!
...AFTER ANOTHER ROUND OR TWO...
THAT EXCHANGE ENABLED ME TO GET THIS CLOSE.

I'VE FOUND SOME INTERESTING SPECIMENS HERE.
I THINK I'LL CAPTURE YOU ALL.
BIKI (PLANK!)


IF THEY'RE NOT HERE YET...THAT TELLS ME SOMETHING HAPPENED TO AKAME AND HER TEAM.
COULD THEY HAVE BEEN HELD UP BY THE JAEGERS WHO AREN'T PRESENT...!?

SHU (SWISH)
PAKI (CLINK!)
PAKI
PAKI
THERE'S SO MUCH I WANT TO ASK YOU.
GUH!
!?

DAN (LEAF)
BA (CHOP)
DO (THUD)
DOSU (SLAM)

SAKII (SHIIING)
FREEZE ...
CAP-TURE ...
...COM-PLETE.

!?
DO! (STAB)
KA
KA
KA
KA
KA
NH...
GUH...
THAT HEALING ABILITY...
I'M CURIOUS ABOUT IT.
AH!
RUN (FLIP)
I'LL JUST HAVE TO TEST IT OUT.
DOES THE RATE OF HEALING DIFFER FROM BODY PART TO BODY PART?

CUT OFF YOUR RIGHT BREAST.
I'LL TAKE OUT AN EYE.
OPEN AN AIR HOLE IN YOUR CHEEK.
CHOP OFF YOUR ARM.
TEAR OFF YOUR FINGER-NAILS.
STAB YOUR TAIL.
SLICE OFF YOUR LEG.
DIG OUT YOUR TOES.

AH...
HAAH...
HFF...
AAH...
HAAH...
AH...
GWAAH!
AAAAAAAH
HUH.
YOU'RE STILL ALIVE...
THAT'S SOME REGENERATIVE ABILITY.
NEXT ...
...I'LL GIVE YOU A FATAL WOUND.

LET'S SEE HOW MUCH YOU CAN TAKE.
SOMETHING'S COMING AT ME!
BO (WHOOSH)
I KNEW THERE WAS ANOTHER ASSASSIN.
(SKID)
YOU'RE SO GULLIBLE TO HAVE FALLEN FOR MY PLOY TO GET YOU TO SHOW YOURSELF.

BACHI (BZZT)
BACHI
GIRI (GRIT)
BACHI
...WHILE LEONE WAS GETTING HACKED TO PIECES ...!!!
I COULDN'T STAY QUIET...
BA (VSH)

IN-CURSIO ...!
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO FIGHT YOU AT LEAST ONCE!

..SO THIS...
...IS THE OVER-POWERING PRES-SURE...
ZUZU (SEETHE)
...OF THE EMPIRE'S STRONGEST HUMAN BEING.....
HOW AM I SUP-POSED TO FIGHT HER!?
SHE'S NOT GIVING ME AN IOTA OF AN OPEN-ING...
ZU
ZU
ZU

IT'LL BE HARD TO ATTACK HIM...
NO, IT'S NOT THAT ...
IT'S MORE THAT... I DON'T WANT TO...?
THAT'S ODD...
HE'S LEAVING HIMSELF PLENTY OPEN THOUGH.
THIS IS A FIRST FOR ME...
WHO IS HE...?
KNH ...
UGH .....

Chapter 42 - Kill the Despair (Part 1)

HAAAH!!
SLIN (SWING)
WHOA!
GA (WALOP)

!ICK
DO (WHIP)
GAKIN (CLANG)
DA (CRASH)

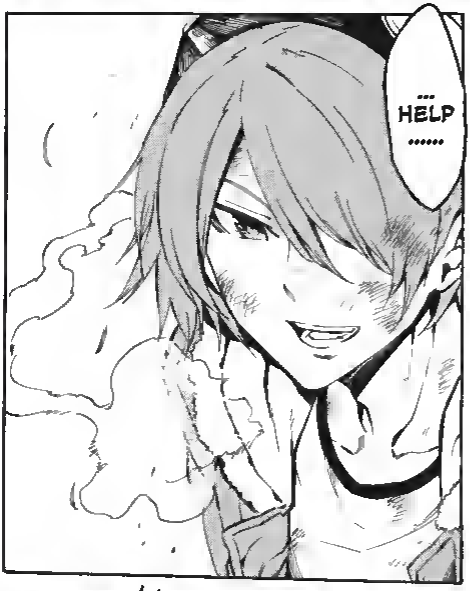
DO
DO
DO
DO
DO
DO
WHOOSH
TCH!
THIS ENEMY...
...ALWAYS KEEPS AN EYE OUT FOR WHEN I MIGHT FIRE.
GU
(SWP)

ZUKI (THROB)
WHAT'S THE MAT-TER!?
ALL YOU DO IS DODGE ME!
BA (HOP)
UNH ...!
PISHI (SNAG)
I'M GOING TO CHARGE RIGHT AT YOU!
ZA (SH)

GAH
HAH!
THIS IS...!
!
SHE WAS WRAPPING YOUR BODY IN THREAD...
...AND FASTENING YOU TO THIS TREE.
SHE...
...SHE WASN'T JUST... AVOIDING YOUR... ATTACKS.
IT WON'T BREAK.
ITS STURDINESS IS CLEARLY ON A WHOLE OTHER LEVEL.
WHAT'S WITH THIS THREAD...?
I'LL JUST SLICE THROUGH THIS LIKE I DID BEFORE...

IT'S BOUNDARY CUTTING THREAD.
I PREPARED THIS PARTICULAR TYPE AHEAD OF TIME.
YOU GO ON AHEAD, AKAME!!
KOKU (NOD)
フク

ZURU (SLIDE)
HEH ...
HEH HEH...
WAIT!
!
DA (DASH)

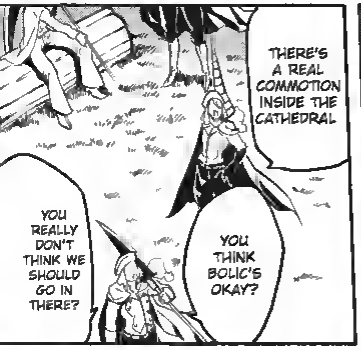

... HELP .....

I ALSO ...
...M-MAN-AGED...
...TO BE OF SOME ...

SISHA (SPLAT)

ドサ
DOSA (THUD)

TCH!
GI (TAUT)


THERE'S A REAL COMMOTION INSIDE THE CATHEDRAL
YOU THINK BOLIC'S OKAY?
YOU REALLY DON'T THINK WE SHOULD GO IN THERE?

WAAAAH!
NEAR THE CATHEDRAL

HE SHOULD BE FINE UNDER GENERAL ESDEATH'S CHARGE.
ESDEATH SUPPORTERS
ESDEATH

WE'LL GUARD THIS PLACE...
...AND STAVE OFF ANY OTHER INTRUDERS. THAT SHOULD BE ENOUGH.
BEEN A LONG TIME...
...SINCE I WIELDED THIS TEIGU.

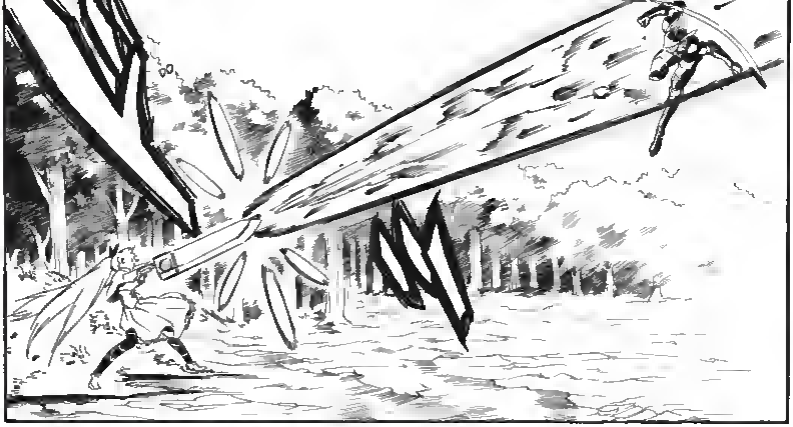
OF THE MANY FOLLOWERS OF THE WAY OF PEACE... ONE IS A TEIGU USER!!!
IT HAD GONE MISSING DURING THE CIVIL WAR. BUT HORIMACA FOUND IT BURIED IN THE COUNTRYSIDE SINCE THE TEIGU HAD NO OWNER BEFORE HIM. ITS ABILITIES ARE UNKNOWN.
HIS NAME IS HORI-MACA.
HIS TEIGU IS THE MYSTE-RIOUS ADAYUSA.

THIS FACT IS HIDDEN EVEN FROM THE EMPIRE...
...AND IS BOLIC'S TRUMP CARD.
IF I HURRY, I SHOULD CATCH UP TO THEM.
DA (DASH)
I CAN'T LET THEM REACH KUROME AND THE REST!
NOW I CAN MOVE.
ALL RIGHT!
GUPPA
GUPPA (FLEX)

I'LL TAKE HER DOWN.
THERE SHE IS.

BA (LEAP)

GRAND FA—
DOU (BLAST)



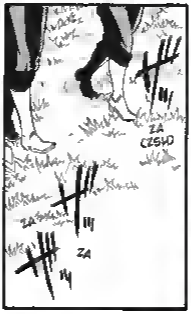
SHE DIDN'T GO TO THE CATHEDRAL? SHE WAS WAITING TO AMBUSH ME!?
IT'S HER.

"SLOW AND STEADY WINS THE RACE," AS THEY SAY.
GOOOOOO (WHOOOOOSH)
NH!
I KNEW IF I WAITED, YOU'D COME TO TRY TO STOP US EVENTUALLY.

WITH THAT ARMOR, HE'S PROBABLY NOT DEAD.
BUT AT LEAST I GOT HIM AWAY FROM US.
GU (SAD)
LET'S HEAD TO THE CATHE-DRAL!

AA
AA
AA
KIRAN (TWINKLE)
WHO

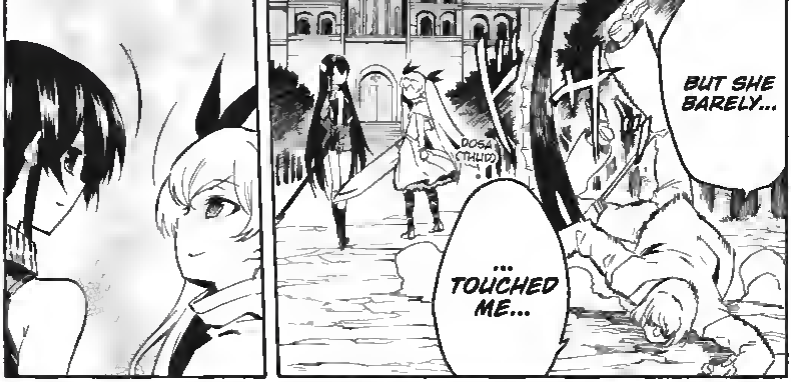
!!


ZA (ZISH)
ZA
ZA

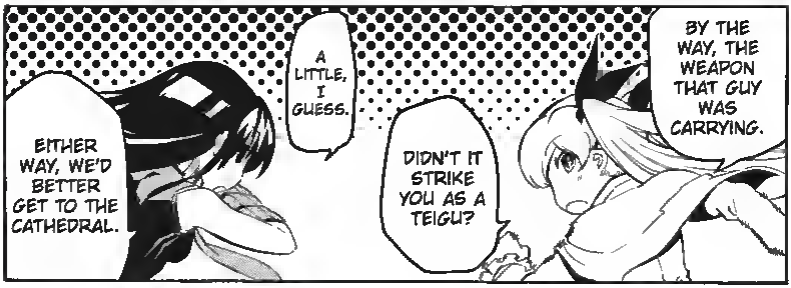
BINGO!
IT'S A NIGHT RAID!
JUST BECAUSE THEY'RE GIRLS, DON'T GO EASY ON THEM. WE'RE GOING TO PUT THEM IN THE GROUND!
YEAH! FOR-MATION "BAL-LISTIC ARRAY"!

I'LL BURY YOU WITH MY SCYTHE!!
YURA (WAVE)
IT'LL BE CERTAIN DEATH!!!
CHIKI (CHINK!?
GAKI (CLANG)
POCHU
POCHU (GRUESU)
POCHU

KUH...
THAT WAS CLOSE ...
TH...
JIWA (SEED)
JIWA
JIWA
THIS CAN'T BE...
HUH?
IT'S ALREADY OVER.
THAT WASN'T CLOSE.
!!


BUT SHE BARELY...
DOSA (THUD)
... TOUCHED ME...

DA (CRASH)

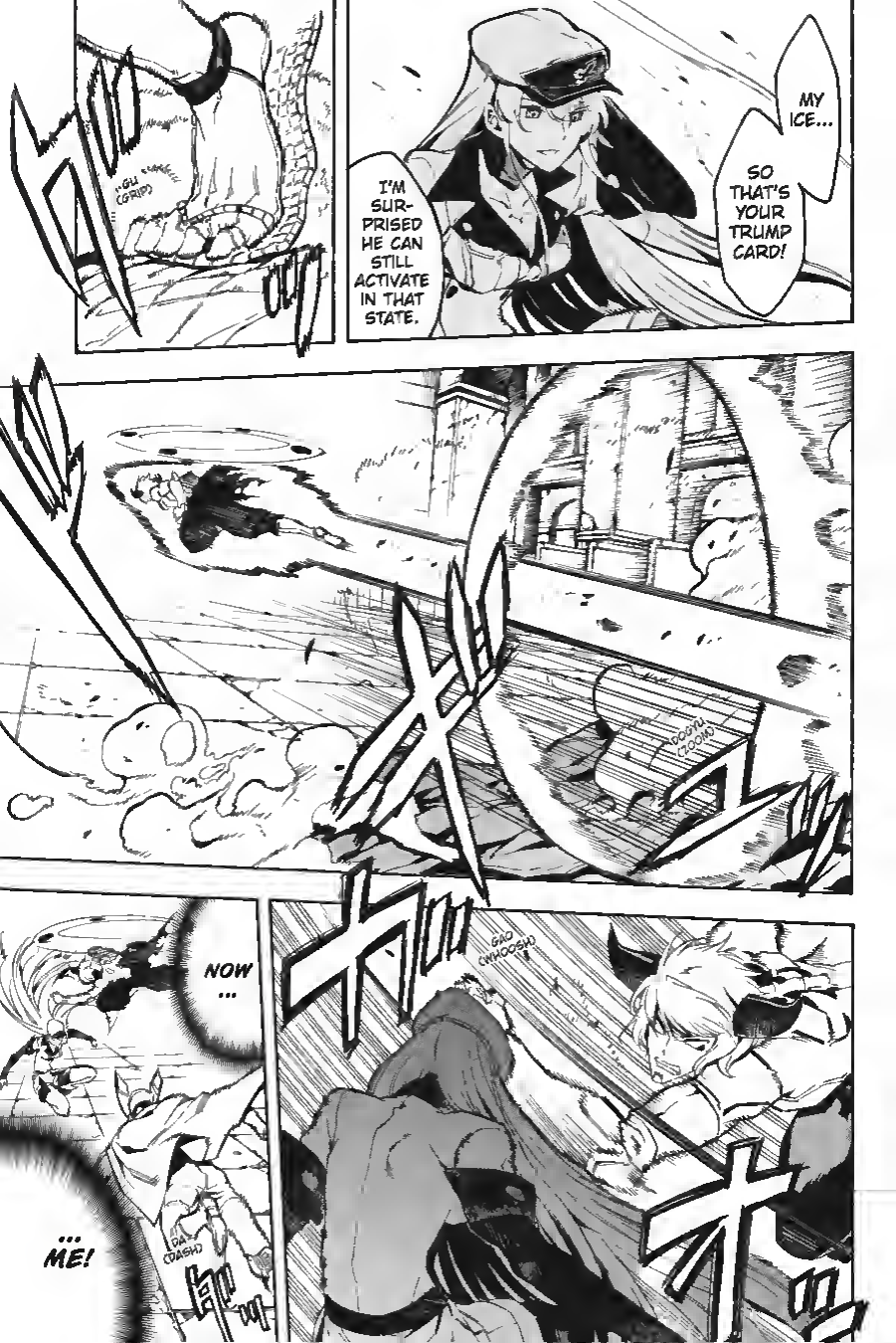

BY THE WAY, THE WEAPON THAT GUY WAS CARRYING.
DIDN'T IT STRIKE YOU AS A TEIGU?
A LITTLE, I GUESS.
EITHER WAY, WE'D BETTER GET TO THE CATHEDRAL.

I'M PATHETIC.
EVEN IF IT WAS ONLY FOR A SECOND, I CAN'T BELIEVE I BLACKED OUT.

THOUGH I COULD SENSE WHAT WAS GOING ON, MY BODY WOULDN'T FOLLOW THROUGH.
I KNOW I'VE BECOME WEAK, BUT...
... ESDEATH HAS CLEARLY GROWN.
SHE'S EVEN STRONGER THAN WHEN I WAS WITH THE EMPIRE ...!!

I'M GOING TO USE IT NOW!
SHOULDN'T HAVE HELD OUT FOR LATER.
WUOOOO (WHOOO)
MAGA-TAMA MANIFES-TATION!
WE'VE SURVIVED THIS LONG...
...BE-CAUSE WE'RE STUB-BORN.
JUST BECAUSE YOU FROZE HIM DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN COUNT HIM OUT.
NAJEN-DA?
...WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
ZU (SEETHE)
ZU

CRUSH BOLIC!
GO.
SUSA-NOO.


(GU (GRIP)
I'M SUR-PRISED HE CAN STILL ACTIVATE IN THAT STATE.
SO THAT'S YOUR TRUMP CARD!
MY ICE...
(DOOM) (DOOM)
(GAO (WHOOSH)
NOW ...
(DA (DASH)
...ME!

DO
DO
DO
DO (SWING)
PA (BLOCK)
PA
GO (WHACK)
DO (WHOOSH)
VERY INTERESTING
DO (WHOOSH)
NOT BAD!

BUT...
...YOU STILL CAN'T DEFEAT ME!
GUARD (SHLD)
ZUBA (SLASH)
B4
FIGHI (PSSHT)

DO (SHOONK)
DO
DO
DO
DO
DO
(SHUUUUU) (FSSHHHH)
ZA
ZA
ZA (SKID)
GWAH!
KIIII (VWEEEEE)
PASH! (CATCH)

BAKI
BAKI
BAKI
(CRUNCH)
CLOUDS OF
HEAVEN!

DOGO (BOOM)
PITA (STUCK)
BAKI (CRACK)
BAKI
BAKI

BUHWA
GFWOOSH
NOT YOU, MAYBE.
BUT WHAT ABOUT MY TARGETS BEHIND YOU?
YOU WERE GETTING TOO CAUGHT UP IN THE THRILL OF THE FIGHT.
YOU GUARDED YOURSELF BY INSTANTLY ERECTING AN ICE WALL DOZENS OF LAYERS THICK.
KIN CTING!
I COMMEND YOUR VIGOR.
BUT YOU CAN'T GET ME.
KUROME!
BA CWHIP!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

SHUUUUUU (FSSHHH)
WE'RE ALL OKAY !!
DOSH (THUD)
!NATALA!
BUSHU (SPURT)

I WAS AIMING AT BOLIC WITH MY SHOCK WAVE, BUT...
...IT WON'T BE SO EASY TO BRING HIM DOWN WITH JUST THAT... STILL, AT LEAST I DAMAGED THEIR DEFENSE FORCES.
.....
.....
IF I DON'T EVEN GET TO FULLY ENJOY THE BAT-TLE...
ZUOOOO (VOOOOOM)
...I'M NEVER TAKING ANOTHER BODYGUARD JOB AGAIN.
PAKI
PAKI (CRACK)
THAT IS MORE ICE...
...THAN SHE'S MADE SO FAR...
I'M NOT JUST GOING TO CAP-TURE YOU.

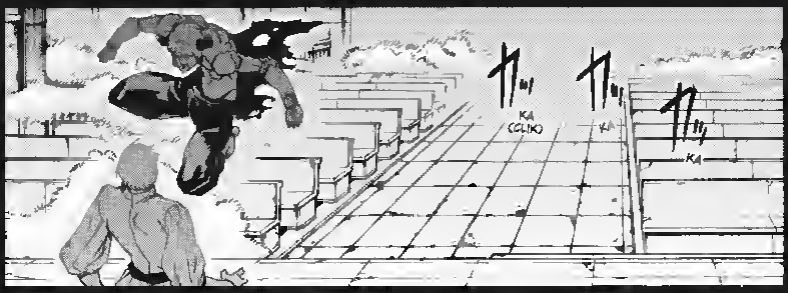
I'M GOING TO CRUSH YOU RIGHT ALONG WITH YOUR CORE!
(TAN CLEAD)
KIII! (WHEEEEEE)
...WHAT THE STRONG-EST ATTACK FORCE FEELS LIKE!!
LET YOUR BODY FEEL ...

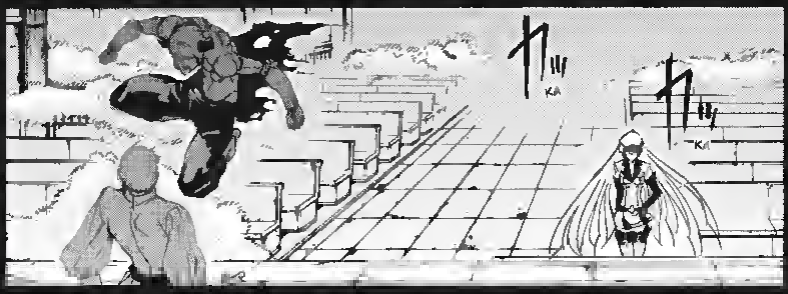
KA
(FLASH)
EIGHT MIRROR!!!
THIS IS MY CHANCE FOR VICTORY !!
HM.
HE RE-FLECTED IT...

BA (LEAP)
YASAKANI NO MAGATAMA JEWEL!!
KHHH (CWEEEE)
GOT 'IM!!!

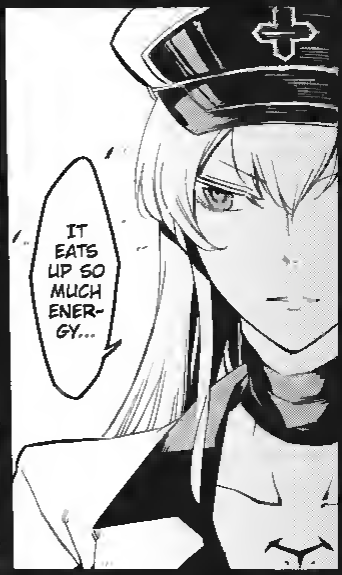
BEFORE ME, ALL THINGS FREEZE.

MAKAHADOMA.
PISHI
(CRASH!)
THIS IS THE TRUMP CARD I MADE TO ENSURE TATSUMI CANNOT ESCAPE ME AGAIN.
I IN-VENTED IT TO DEFEAT MY ENEMY EVERY TIME WITHOUT FAIL.
I'VE FROZEN TIME AND SPACE.


KA (CLIK)
KA
KA


KA
KA

...I CAN ONLY USE IT ONCE A DAY...


IT EATS UP SO MUCH ENER-GY...

ZUPU (STAB)
BUT I THINK THAT'S ENOUGH, DON'T YOU?

PAK!!
CCRACK!

PAKI (SNAP)
PAKI
!?
PAKI
WHAT... THE...?
!?
IN RELIGIOUS TEXTS, MAKAHA-DOMA IS ONE OF THE ICE REALMS OF HELL...
PAKI (SNAP)
IT'S NAMED DIFFERENT-LY FROM MY OTHER TECHNIQUES, BUT...
...IT FITS THE IMAGE PERFECTLY.
PAKI
PAKI (CRICK)
GET AWAY !!
SUSA-NOO!

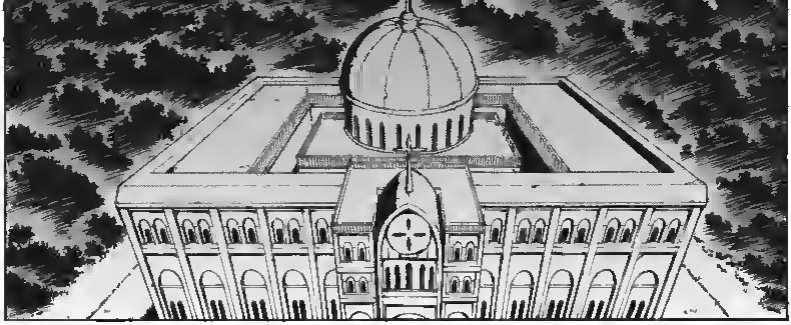
I WON'T GIVE YOU THE CHANCE!!
DA (DASH)
BAKA (PON)
I'LL COMMEND YOU FOR MAKING ME USE MY TRUMP CARD.
SUSA-NOO'S CORE...

KARA (CLATTER)
KARA
KARA
BAKI (GRUNGH)

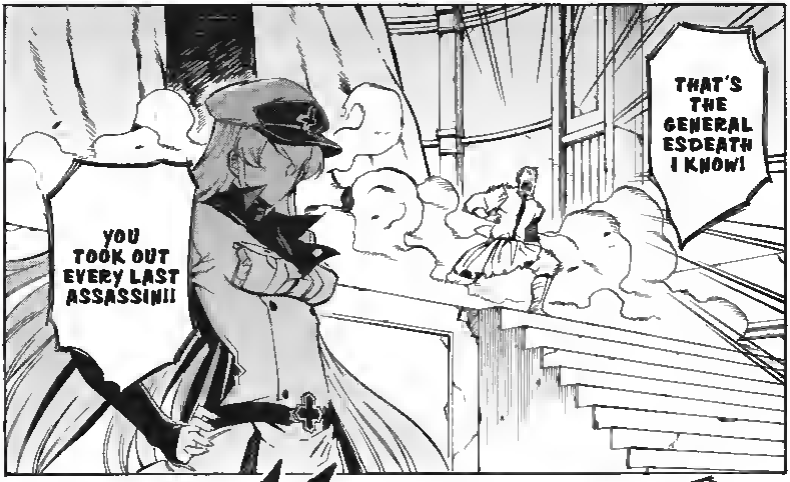
YOU'VE GATHERED SOME PRETTY IMPRESSIVE FRIENDS, NAJENDA.
YOU REALLY ARE AN INTEREST-ING ONE.
IT'S TOO BAD I WON'T HAVE ANY MORE ENEMIES TO LOOK FORWARD TO DEFEATING, BUT...
...GIVEN THAT YOU'RE THE LEADER OF NIGHT RAID, THERE'S NO WAY I CAN LET YOU GO.
ZURI (SCRAPE)
LOOK.
ZU (GROAN)
ZU
ZU
EVEN WITH A BROKEN CORE, HE'S STILL MOVING.

IT PROVES JUST HOW POWERFUL... YOUR TRUMP CARD WAS.
ZURI (SCUFF)
EVEN AFTER WHAT YOU'VE BEEN REDUCED TO...!
SUSA-NOO.
IT'S THE END FOR HIM.
ZU (L AGE)
ZU
ZU
BUT IT DOESN'T SEEM HE HAS THE ENERGY TO FULLY RESTORE HIMSELF.
...TO BE DONE...!!?
IS THERE NOTHING MORE...

...THERE'S NO ONE LEFT TO FIGHT ME.
AND NOW...
ALLOW ME TO SHOW YOU ALL...
...TO THE TORTURE CHAMBER.



HA HA HA...!
HA... HA HA!


YOU TOOK OUT EVERY LAST ASSASSIN!!
THAT'S THE GENERAL ESDEATH I KNOW!

FOOLS!! SCUM OF THE EARTH!! SERVES THEM RIGHT!!
THOSE PITIFUL THIEVES DIDN'T KNOW WHAT THEY WERE GETTING INTO WHEN THEY THOUGHT THEY COULD TAKE ME OUT!!

GA (GRAB)
KA (CLICK)
I CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER ...
KA
KA
NOW.
GU (PULL)
LET'S SEE WHO'S UNDER THE MASK.

Chapter 43 - Kill the Despair (Part II)

I'M...
...NOW, THEN.
KE-LO (LICK)
...GOING TO TEACH THAT LOVELY YOUNG LADY A LESSON OR TWO IN LOVE...
!
DON'T GO OFF BY YOUR-SELF...
KAN
KAN
KAN (CLACK)
KUH...
THE WOUND THAT GIRL GAVE ME IS ACTING UP AGAIN...
I CAN'T BELIEVE ONE MEASLY LITTLE NEEDLE PRICK IS CAUSING ME THIS MUCH PAIN...
ZUKI (THROB)

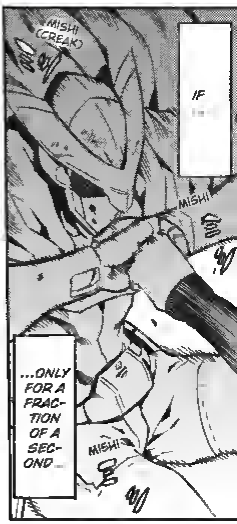
BAAN (SHATTER)
PACHI (SNAP)
NEW PLAYERS JOINING THIS LATE IN THE GAME!?
TA (TAK)

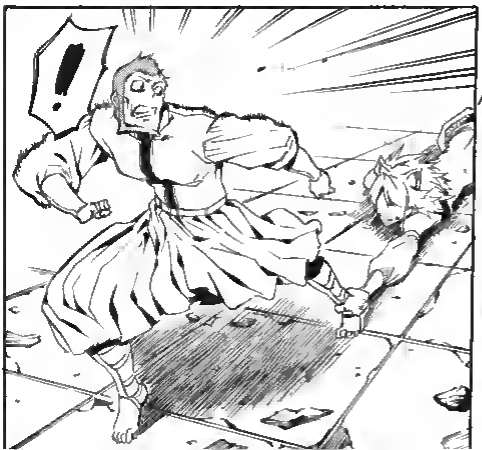
PUMPKIN!!
@A (WHIP)
GO (WHOOSH)
PARA (CRUMBL)
PARA
GOU (WHOOSH)
AKAME TOOK IN HER SURROUNDINGS...
...AND MADE A SPLIT-SECOND DECISION.

...AND HEAD FOR THE TARGET, WHO STILL LIVED.
SHE WOULD IGNORE HER ANGER TOWARD ESDEATH ...
DO (DASH)
DO (WHOOSH)
YOU'RE AWAKE ...!?
OH, NO, YOU DON'T!

YOU REACT-ED!?
PAAN (POW)

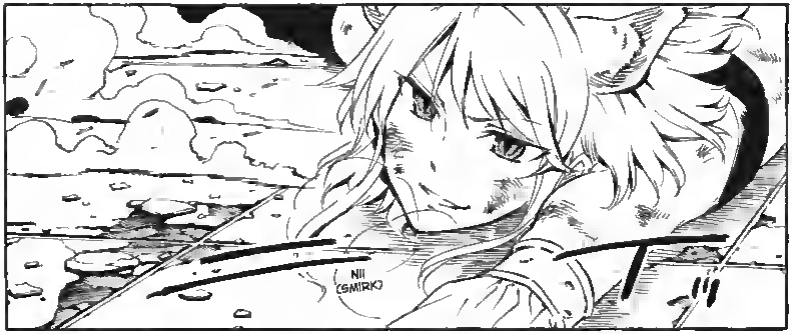
...ESDEATH BACK!!
...I HAVE TO KEEP...

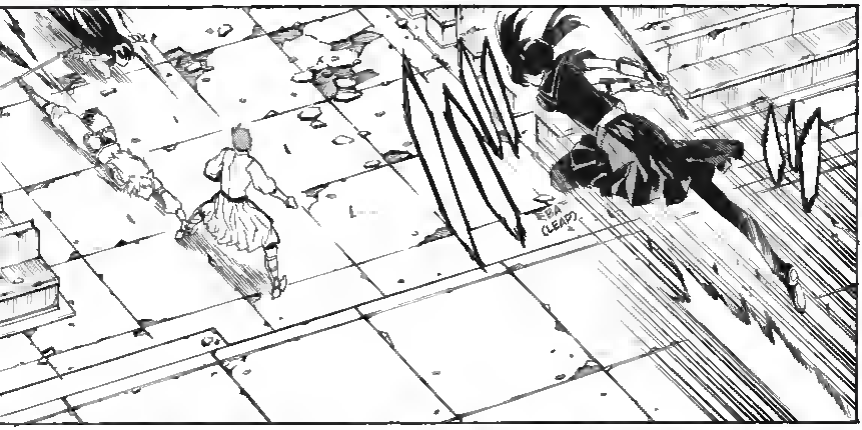

MISHI (CREAK)
IF
MISHI
...ONLY FOR A FRAC-TION OF A SEC-OND...
MISHI


!

GA (GRAB)

E E...
A... AKA-ME!


NII
(SMIRK)


HEH
(LEAP)

SISTER!

ZUJU (SLASH)
GYAH!!

!?
GA'II
KIANGU
KUROME
...
HOW
DARE
YOU
...!!?
SISTER
...

DO (CRASH)
MY MISSION IS A FAILURE...
—!
DON (BOOM)
KOOOOO (OOOOOAH)

GO
RUMBLE
GO
GO
GO
YOU WERE ABLE TO FULLY RECOVER ...!?
THAT'S ...!!

ZUDOO (WOOOOOM)
...MAGA-TAMA MANIFES-TATION!!!
IT'S THE THIRD ...
DOO (WOOOO)
...IF I DON'T FORCE THIS TO WORK, WE'LL ALL DIE.
IT'S SUP-POSED TO BE IMPOSSI-BLE TO USE IT IN SUCCES-SION, BUT. .
DOSA (THUD)
TA (TAK)
I'VE USED UP THE LAST OF MY LIFE FORCE...
THE REST IS UP TO YOU, SUSANOO.
GA HA H!

NAJENDA, YOU BITCH!!
FISH! (PLINK?)
(PWP)
YASA-KANI NO MAGA-TAMA JEWEL !!
ZUH (THOOM?)

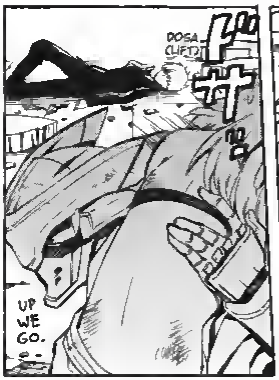
HM!
YOUR POWER'S INCREASED.
DOO (OSH)
DO
DO
DO
DO
DO
SU-SAN.
I'LL GIVE YOU BACK-UP...
GU (GRIP)
DOGO (BOOM)

RUN.
NO...

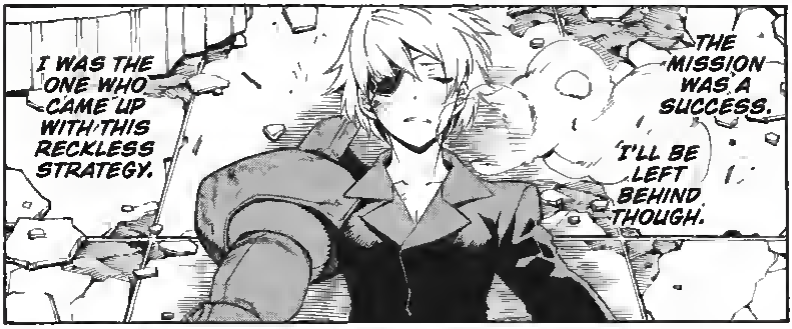
HUH?
BUT WITH SU-SAN AS HE IS NOW...!
IT'S ONLY BECAUSE I FORCED AN IMPOSSIBLE AMOUNT OF USE...
THE MISSION'S OVER.
HAAH!
HAAH!
EVERYONE, FALL BACK.
HAAH!
HAAH!
BESIDES, WE'VE TAKEN TOO LONG.
SOONER THAN LATER, A HUGE ARMY OF SOLDIERS WILL BE SWARMING THE PLACE.
HAAH!
IT'S NOT THAT SUSANOO'S POWER HAS INCREASED SEVERALFOLD.
GOOOOO! (WOOOOO)
IT'S ONLY A SLIGHT INCREASE IN STRENGTH.
HE STILL CAN'T TAKE OUT ESDEATH...
.....
.....
UNDERSTOOD!

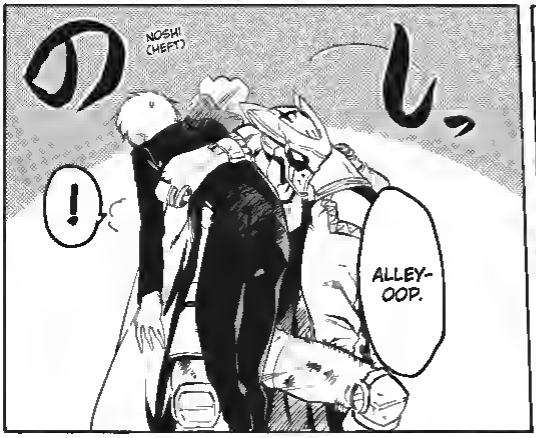
DOSHUUU (WHOOSH)
TA (LEAP)
GOO (WOOSH)
!?

YOU HEARD HER, AKAME!
-SHUUU (SSSHHH)
I'LL KEEP THEM AT BAY WITH PUMPKIN WHILE WE RETREAT!!
...KUH...
I CAN'T KILL AKAME UNDER THESE CONDITIONS...!
-TA (TAK)
-TA (TAK)
-TA (TAK)
AND I DON'T HAVE THE PHYSICAL STRENGTH TO SEND OUT DOYA...
ALL BECAUSE OF THE WOUND THAT GIRL GAVE ME...!!


DOSA (LIFT)
UP WE GO.

LEONE!
WE'RE GETTING OUT OF HERE!
I'M SORRY, BUT... COULD YOU PICK UP MY FINGERS AND OTHER PIECES...
TA (TMP)


I WAS THE ONE WHO CAME UP WITH THIS RECKLESS STRATEGY.
THE MISSION WAS A SUCCESS.
I'LL BE LEFT BEHIND THOUGH.


NOSH! (HEFT)
!
ALLEY-OOP.

GU (GRAB)
SO IT'S ONLY FAIR...

HEY.
I'M GOING TO DIE ANYWAY. LEAVE ME HERE.
IF YOU'VE GOT ENOUGH STRENGTH TO BE SAYING THAT...
...THEN WE DON'T KNOW THAT FOR SURE!
DOGOO (BOOM)
(CRACK)

KA (WHIP)
SU-SAN!
KA (SKID)
BUT YOU STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO.
KA (CLINK)
THAT'S NOT ENOUGH TO PUT A MARK ON ME.
IT SEEMS YOU'VE GOTTEN STRONGER TO SOME DEGREE.
KA
KA (CLINK)

GA
GA
(GRAB)
ZUN
(THOOM)
YOU THINK YOU CAN GET AWAY WITH THEM ON YOUR SHOULDERS!?
DON'T LET GO OF NAJENDA OR LEONE.

IN MY THOUSAND-YEAR LIFE AS A TEIGU...
...I MET SOME GOOD PEOPLE.
I HAVE NO REGRETS.
RUIN CROSS
GOOD-BYE!!

SU-
SAN!!!!

DO (THOOM)
YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY!!
PISHI (PSSHT)
BIKIKI (KRIIK)

(CHOOH)
(CHOOH)
NOT ON MY WATCH !!
!!
THAT REFLECTIVE MIRROR...

...DOES INDEED APPEAR TO BE GOOD FOR ONLY ONE USE.
YOUR TRUMP CARD...
S-STEP!
...SHOULD BE ABLE TO SURVIVE AT LEAST A LITTLE LONGER.
GOOOOO (WHOOOO)
NOW NA-JEN-DA.
I REACHED MAXIMUM CAPACITY BEFORE SHE USED UP ALL HER LIFE FORCE.
I'M GLAD I WAS FORCED TO GO THREE ROUNDS.
I WON'T LET YOU GO AFTER THEM.
(ZU (ZSH)

THE PEOPLE WHO WORK FOR NAJENDA ARE ALL A BUNCH OF SAPS.
SO YOU'RE MAKING YOURSELF A SHIELD TO GIVE YOUR FRIENDS TIME TO ESCAPE.
THIS IS THE PERFECT ROLE FOR ME TO PLAY.
I'VE RUN OUT OF TRUMP CARDS.
I'M A HUMANOID TEIGU.
...YES.
HYUOOOO (SHWOOO)
...IS SUSANOO, IS THAT RIGHT?
...YOUR NAME...
JA (CHNK)

I'LL REMEMBER THAT NAME...
ZU (ZSH)
...NOT AS A TEIGU, BUT AS A SOLDIER.

.....

YOUR FINAL MOMENTS OF LIFE...
YOUR FINAL STRUGGLE...

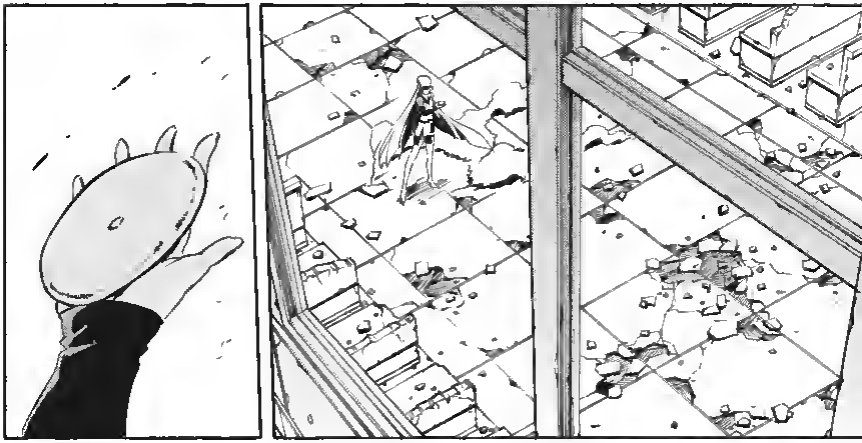
DA
COUGHO
ENTER-
TAIN
ME WITH
THEM!!!
AAAAAH
!!!
OOOAAA
DO
(BOOM)
GAK!
CLANG!

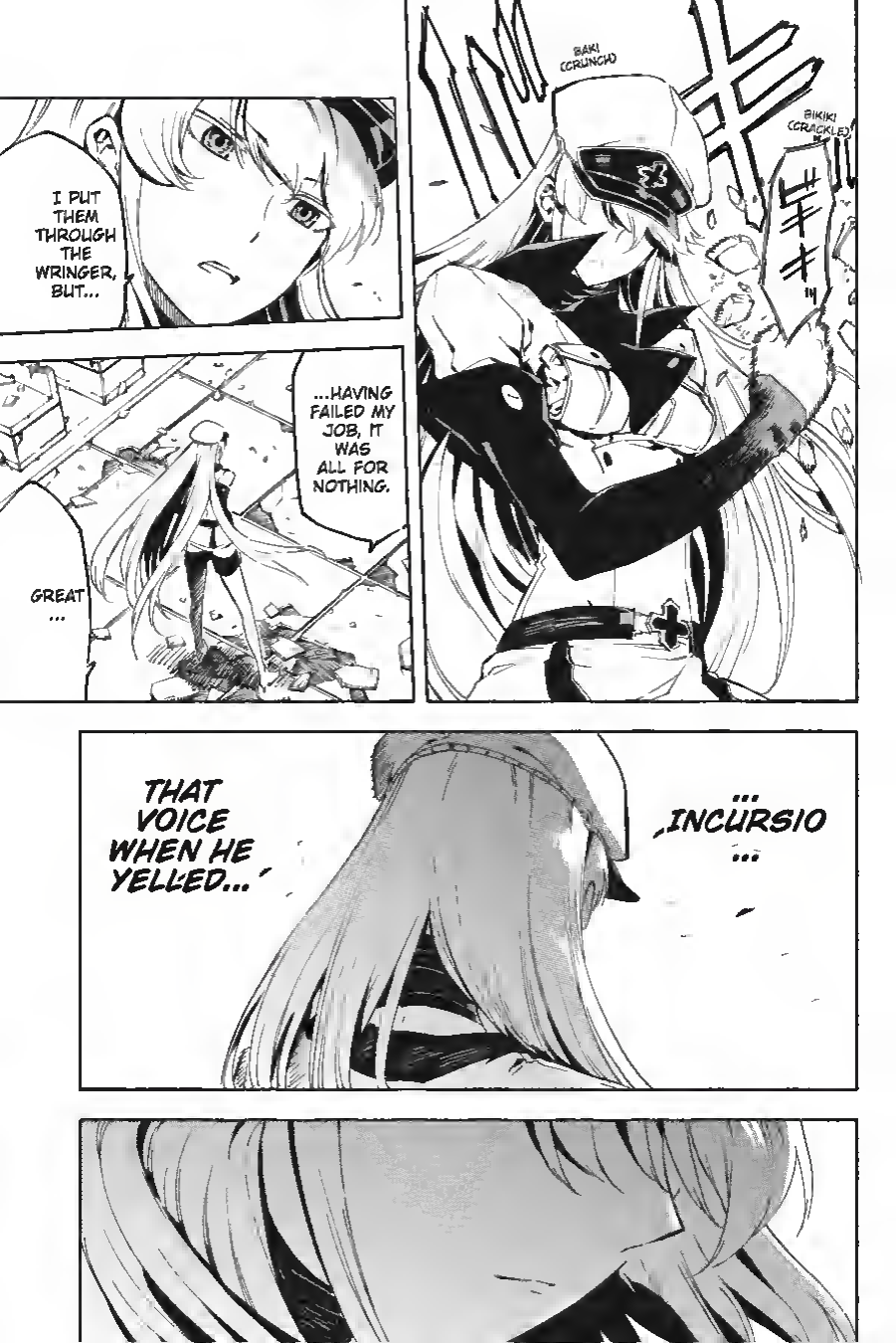
HEH...
FLIRT (SWAY)
FLIRA
FLIRA
HEH HEH...
ZA (CRSH)
GUH...
DOSA (THUD)
THAT JERK ...
...HAD A POOR ENDGAME.
HAAH!
HFF!
HE FELL FOR MY ULTIMATE CERTAIN DEATH TECHNIQUE: PLAYING DEAD.
BUT...
L-LIKE THIS...
HAAH
HAAH
HAAH
...IT'LL BE A LITTLE TOUGH TO ESCAPE.

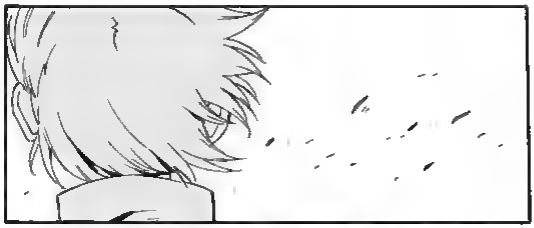
ARE YOU OKAY!?
OH...
GASA (RUSTLE)
I MET YOU BACK WITH THE FOUR RAKSHASAS CASE.
HAAH... HAAH...
HAAH...
!
THANKS.
DOSA (THUMP)
YOU'RE A LIFE-SAVER.
I'M GLAD I CAN REPAY THE FAVOR.
I'M WITH THE REVOLUTIONARY ARMY'S SPY UNIT. I'M PAIS.
WE'RE HERE TO PROVIDE BACKUP FOR OUR COMRADES' ESCAPE.
HEH HEH...
UH-OH... I THINK I'M IN LOVE.
POPU (SCR, TCH)

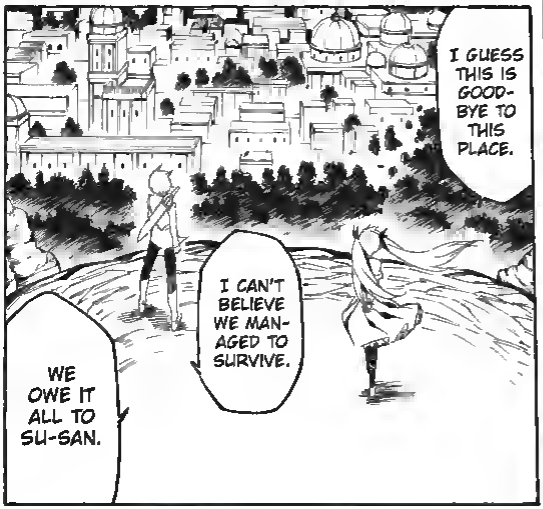
HE SAVED YOU, MY PRECIOUS.
OF COURSE WE'RE GOING TO HELP HIM!
THANK YOU, LITONE. ♥

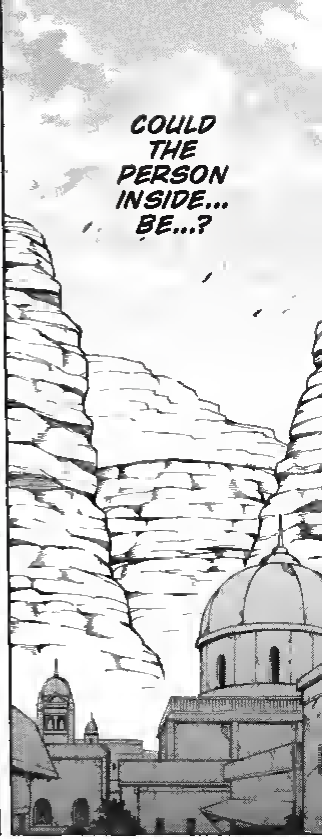
...WHAT A LAME PUNCH-LINE. DAMMIT.
TA
TA
TA
TA
TA
TA
TA
AAAAA
#1

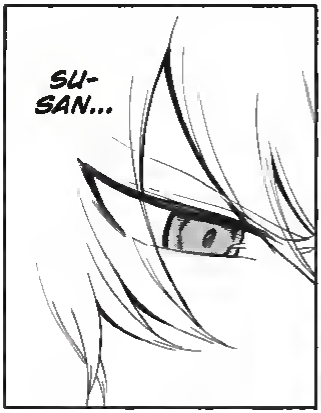



I PUT THEM THROUGH THE WRINGER, BUT...
...HAVING FAILED MY JOB, IT WAS ALL FOR NOTHING.
GREAT ...
BAKI (CRUNCH)
BIKIKI (CRACKLE)
ギキ
THAT VOICE WHEN HE YELLED...
...INCURSIO...



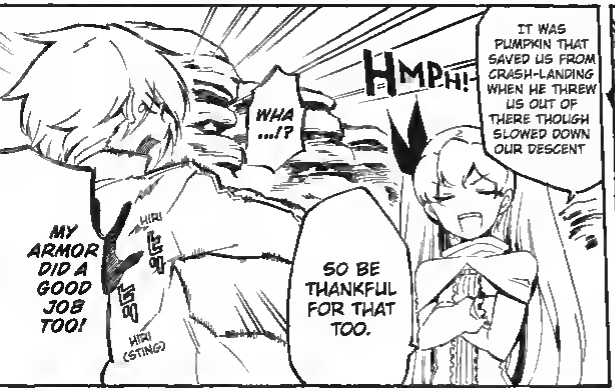

WE OWE IT ALL TO SU-SAN.
I CAN'T BELIEVE WE MANAGED TO SURVIVE.
I GUESS THIS IS GOODBYE TO THIS PLACE.

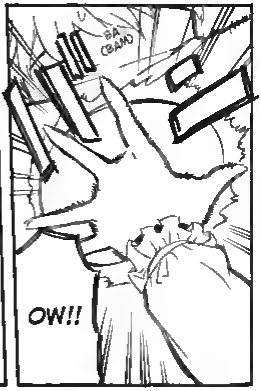

COULD THE PERSON INSIDE... BE...?


SU-SAN...

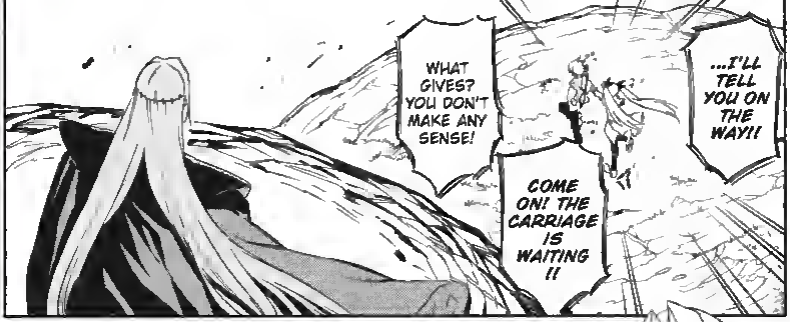
.....
YEAH...

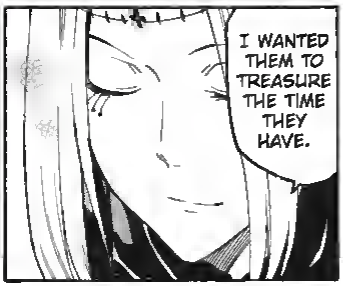
.....
.....


HMPH!
WHA ...!?
MY ARMOR DID A GOOD JOB TOO!
HIRU (STING)
SO BE THANKFUL FOR THAT TOO.
IT WAS PUMPKIN THAT SAVED US FROM CRASH-LANDING WHEN HE THREW US OUT OF THERE THOUGH SLOWED DOWN OUR DESCENT


BA (BAM)
OW!!

!
WHAT IS IT?
ANYWAY, WASN'T THERE SOME-THING YOU WANTED TO TALK TO ME ABOUT?


WHAT GIVES? YOU DON'T MAKE ANY SENSE!
...I'LL TELL YOU ON THE WAY!!
COME ON! THE CARRIAGE IS WAITING !!


I WANTED THEM TO TREASURE THE TIME THEY HAVE.

...OH, GOOD.
I'M RELIEVED TO SEE THEY RE GETTING ALONG WELL.

AND ...
...I PRAY ...

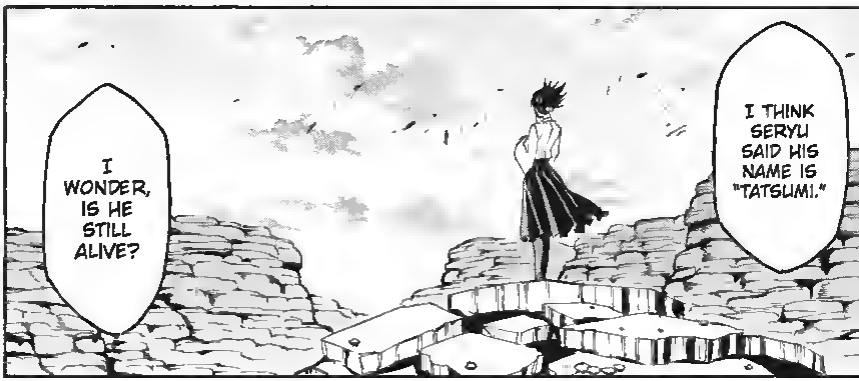
...THAT THE FUTURE I SAW WHEN I MET THE TWO OF THEM CHAN-GES.
THAT MY POWER OF FORE-SIGHT THAT COMES SO RARELY...
...WILL BE WRONG.

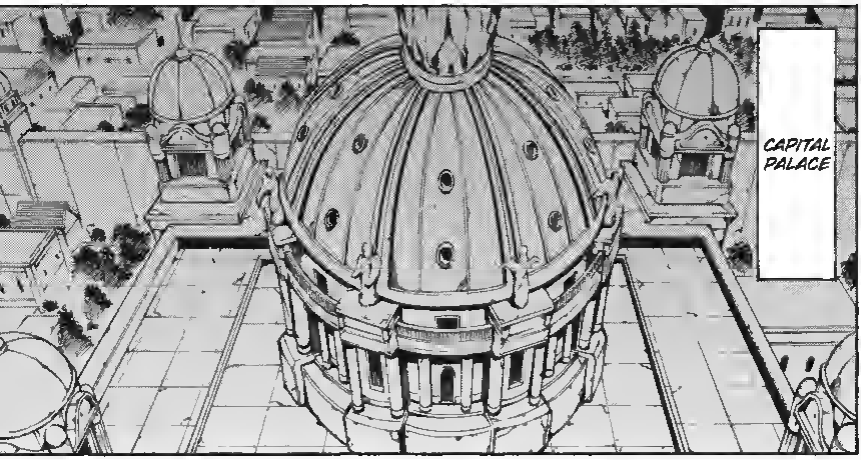
DIGGING THROUGH ABANDONED RUINS LIKE THIS, WE COULD BE ATTACKED BY THE GUARDIAN OF THE TREASURE, YOU KNOW?
I WONDER IF WE'LL FIND ANY VALUABLE ANCIENT TREASURES.
THIS PLACE SURE IS...
...A MESS.
IT'S ...
IT'S HEEE-EERE!
WAAAAH!
BOGO (POP)
SOME-BODY WHO'D ...
...POP RIGHT OUT AT US.
BIKU (JUMP)
WAAH!

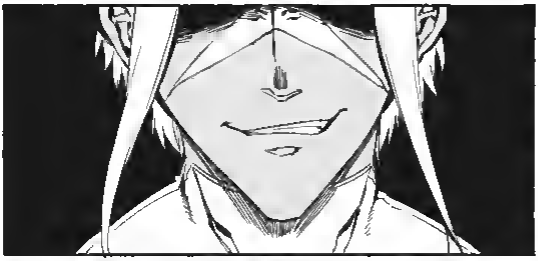
HE OPENED MY EYES TO A WHOLE NEW FORM OF FOREPLAY.
NIKAA (GRIN)
THAT BOY IN ARMOR... REALLY DID IT FOR ME.

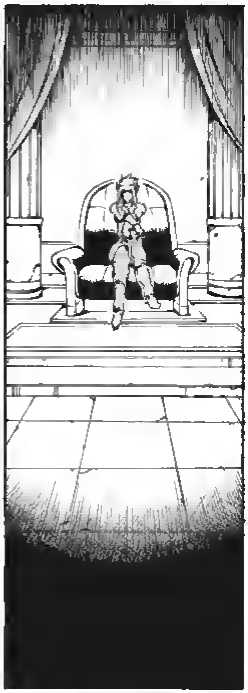
KA (CLACK)

GUUU (STREEEETCH)
AAAH. I RATHER ENJOYED BEING BURIED ALIVE.
IT'S TIMES LIKE THIS THAT MY RAKSHASA PHYSICAL ABILITIES COME IN HANDY.


I WONDER, IS HE STILL ALIVE?
I THINK SERYU SAID HIS NAME IS "TATSUMI."


CAPITAL PALACE





HAAH.
HAAH.
HAAH.
EVERY-ONE'S... BEEN GATH-ERED.
PER-FECT.

OUR TOY THIS TIME IS THE ENTIRE COUNTRY.
I, THE GREAT SYURA, AM GOING TO ENJOY MYSELF FULLY.

REMAINING NIGHT RAID MEMBERS:
SIX.

TAKAHIRO's PostScript

Hello, this is Takahiro from Minoto Soft.
This time around, I have Wave holding an interview with Esdeath to talk about the new technique she unleashed this volume and fill us in on how she invented it, the origins of its name, and more.

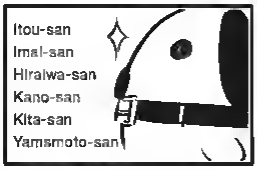
[W ➔ Wave E ➔ Esdeath]

W: General, thank you for taking the time to come out here and speak with me.
E: Certainly, though I know I don't look very good at the moment, having just failed at my job and all... Anyway, this is a fresh start, so let's begin.
W: General, that tramp card you pulled was pretty incredible. Freezing time and space...
E: But I can only use it once a day, and it takes a few seconds for it to work.
W: Still, it's wicked strong. How did you come up with it?
E: It's the result of my search for an attack that would defeat any enemy. And there's another reason: Tatsumi. On my return home from the deserted island, Tatsumi fled ahead of me in just a few seconds. If only I'd had this technique, he couldn't have gotten away. Next time, I'm going to make him live with me.
W: (*Okay, I get the reason, but we've gotten a little off track...*)
E: I hear that the way to a man's heart is through his stomach. So I'm going to have Tatsumi try my one-pot stew.
W: Your cooking certainly is delicious, if I remember correctly. But what men really like to eat is, well, something a little more... homey? Like meat and potatoes? General, you specialize in one-pot recipes and BBQ. That's the kind of food you'd feed an army with, but...
E: Hmm... But that's all I know how to do.
W: Anyway, General, about that Mahahadoma technique...
E: Ah, yes. The secret to freezing time and space is all in the pose.
W: The pose? Is that really the key?
E: It's important to get into it. And coming up with the right name is critical too.
W: Oh, I understand. I always shout out the name when I deliver a hich.
E: I was torn between naming it "Cocytus" and "Mahahadoma." I also threw around the idea of "Ice Age," but...I abandoned it.
W: (*You do so many amazing things, General, it blows my mind. Getting into it... I think I can understand that.*)

And there you have Wave showing a little more of his friendly side.
Well, see you in the next volume!

AKAME GA KILL!

MAIN STAFF

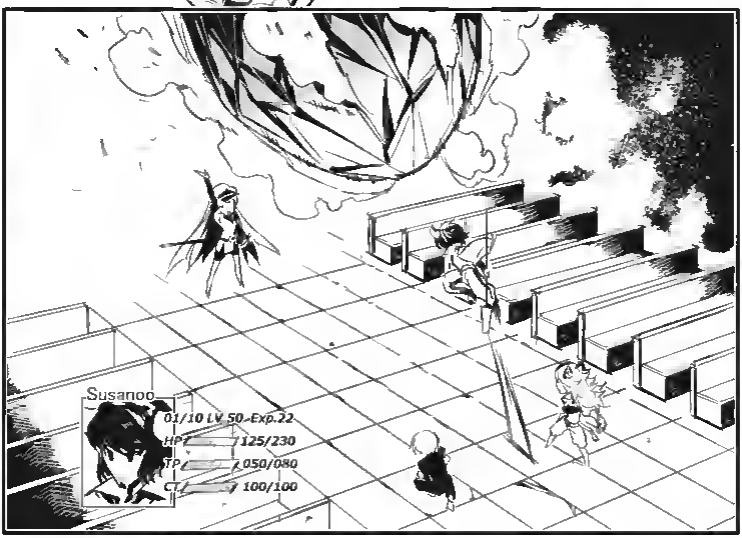


Original Writer
Takahiro-san

Editor
Koizumi-san

COMMENTS

I drew this story feeling as hurried and fidgety as ever. A lot was going on so I was pretty frazzled but now that I've somehow managed to get it all down, what a relief!
Thank you always to all of you who bought this!
And apparently it's being adapted into an anime! Yahoo!



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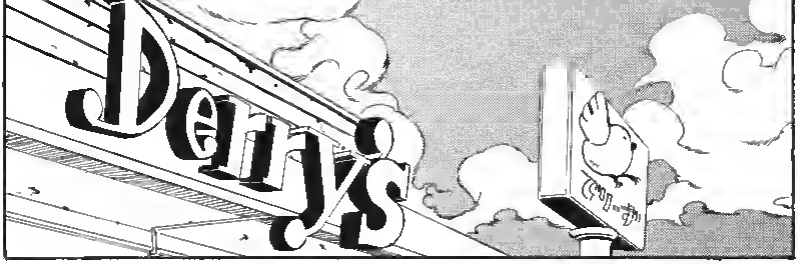
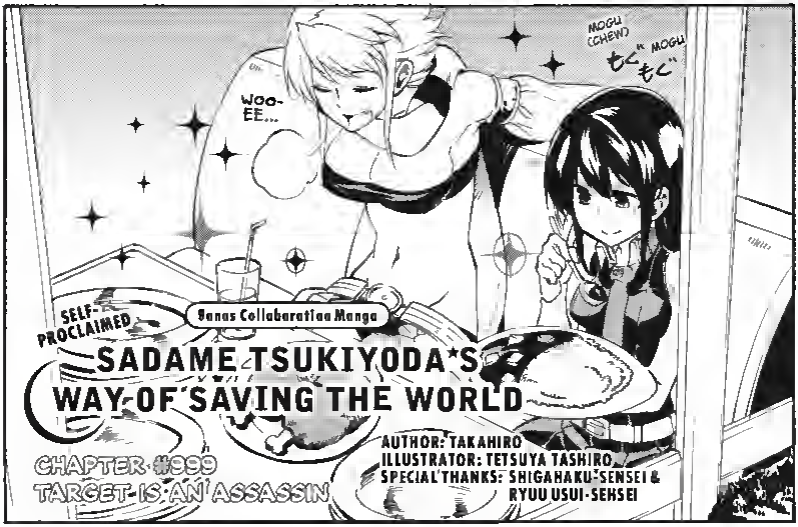


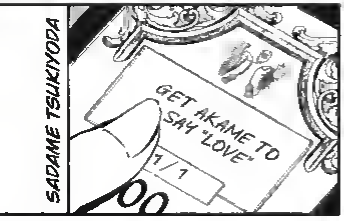
SIGN: DERRY'S



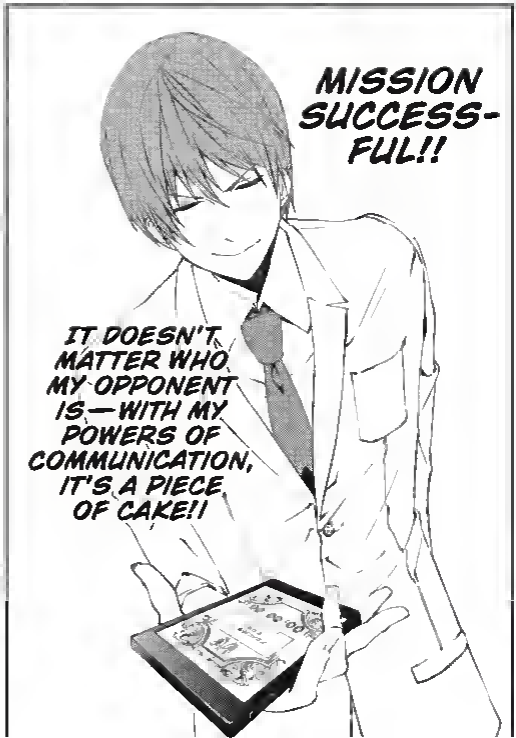
CHARACTERS FROM SADAME TSUKIYODA'S WAY OF SAVING THE WORLD: RYUU USUI-SENSEI

YOU CERTAINLY LOOK LIKE YOU'RE ENJOYING IT...
IS THAT YOUR FAVORITE KIND OF MEAT?
HE'S ONE GENEROUS GUY!
MAN, I CAN'T BELIEVE HE TREATED US TO THIS FEAST OUT OF THE BLUE.
KOKU (NOD)
KOKU

YES...
I LOVE THIS!


SADAME TSUKIYODA
GET AKAME TO SAY "LOVE"
1/1

...!!
HERE'S YOUR BILL.
INSANE AMOUNT OF MONEY
IN ORDER TO SAVE THE WORLD, HE MUST ACCOMPLISH A NUMBER OF "REVELATIONS."


MISSION SUCCESSFUL!!
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO MY OPPONENT IS—WITH MY POWERS OF COMMUNICATION, IT'S A PIECE OF CAKE!!

AKAME GA KILL! 9

Takahiro
Tetsuya Tashiro

Translation: Christine Dashiell
Lettering: Erin Hickman

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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